

Janer 710

# Naval Speculations, AND Maritime Politicks: Being a Modest and Brief **DISCOURSE** OF THE Royal Navy OF **ENGLAND**

Its Oeconomy and Government,

AND

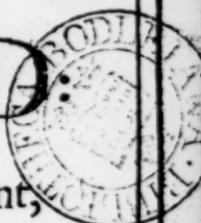
A Projection for an everlasting Seminary of  
Seamen, by a Royal Maritime Hospital.

W I T H

A Project for a ROYAL FISHERY. Also Necessary Measures in the present War with France, &c.

By **HENRY MAYDMAN**.

London, Printed by William Bony, and sold by Sam. Manship at the Black-Bull in Cornhill, and J. Fisher at the Postern between the two Tower-hills, and A. Feltham at the Parliament-Steps, and M. Gillyflower, in Westminster Hall, 1591.



Thom. Tinker 710



*When Englands Rule in Brittish seas doth cease,  
Farewell their wealth, their Glory and their Peace.*

F. H. van. Hoe. sculp.

Janer 710

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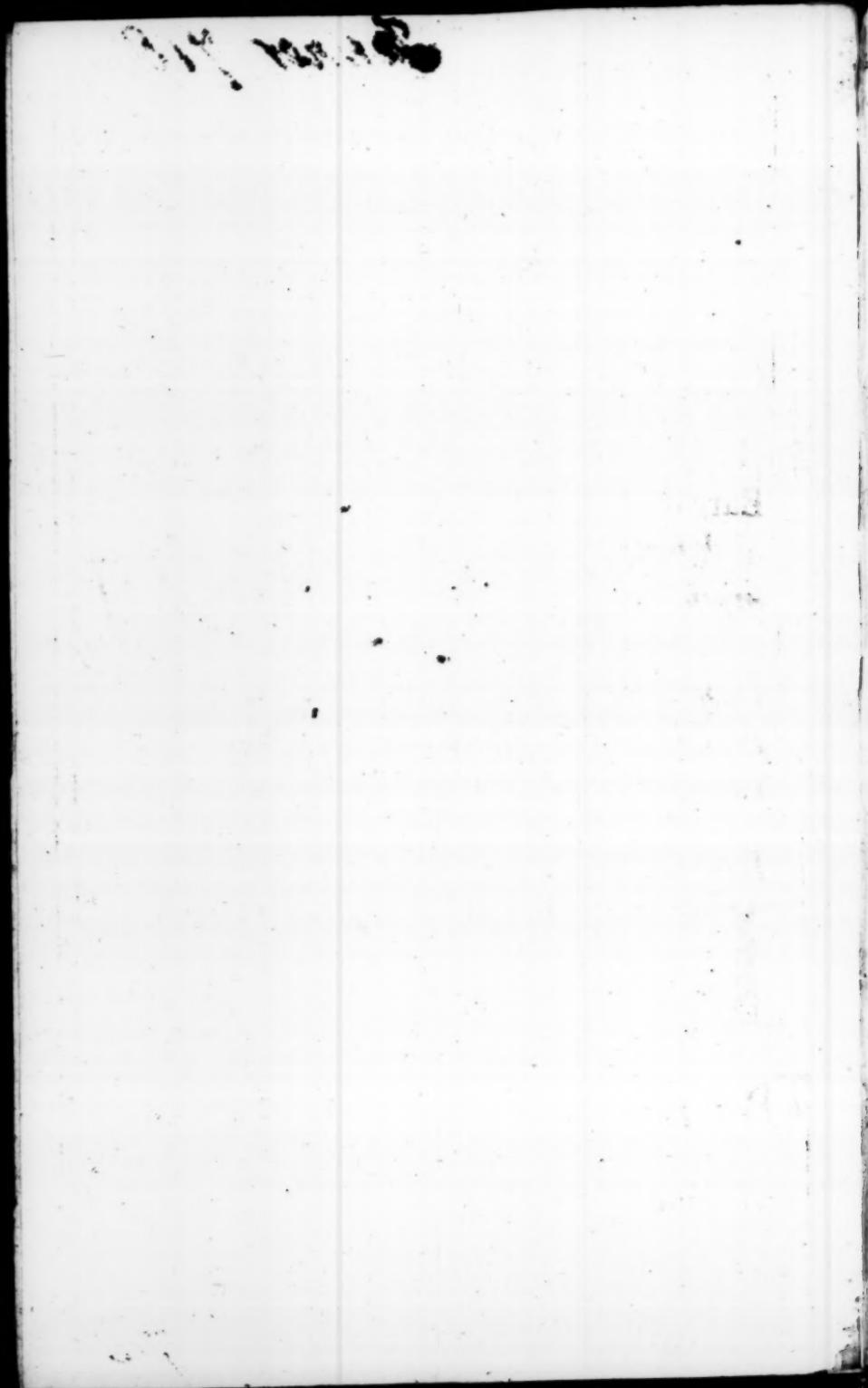
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Thom. Janer 710



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To the Right Honourable

# THOMAS

Earl of *Pembroke* and *Montgomery*,  
Baron *Herbert* of *Sherland*, Lord *Parre*  
and *Ross* of *Kendale*, *Fitz-Hugh Mar-*  
*myon*, and St. *Quintin*, Primier Com-  
missioner for Executing the Office of  
*Lord High Admiral of England*, &c.  
And one of His Majesty's Most Ho-  
nourable Privy Council.

*Right Honourable,*

**T**HE Author of these ensu-  
ing Sheets, approaching  
towards the finishing his  
Thirtieth Year, from being Im-  
ploy-

## *The Epistle Dedicatory.*

ployed a Warranted Officer in divers of the Ships of the *Royal Navy*; during which time, by means of his negotiating through the Offices thereof, being many ways Employed therein; as also his sundry Voyages made into Foreign Parts, employed in the said Ships; and in divers Fleets, Battles, General and Particular; in all which Times, Places, and Occasions, he hath been a true Observer, and diligent Inspector into the Proceedings, Actions, and Methods thereof: And that his weak and small Genius in so high Concerns, and weighty Affairs,

## *The Epistle Dedicatory.*

fairs, might not be altogether Abortive in his Speculations, through the whole Series thereof, he hath presumed, according to his Abilities, to commit the same to Writing in these few Papers, with his Sentiments Thereon: And now chiefly when the Nation hath so lately undergone such great Revolutions, and yet lieth under the heavy Pressures of *Foreign Wars*. And understanding your Lordship hath slighted your Ease, in these Days of Softness and Effeminacy, and condescended to take upon you a Post, wherein you may be most serviceable to Their

## *The Epistle Dedicatory.*

Majesties, and Their Kingdoms, in the Management of Their Royal Navy, in these Times of threatening Dangers. Even as all small Rivolets hasten to the great Rivers, so he from his acknowledged Duty unto Your Lordship, inflamed with the Fame of Your Lordship's Indefatigable Industry, to Inspect the Navy for the Advancement thereof in all Military Executions, to Promote and Maintain, the Right and Dominions of Their Majesties, and Their Kingdoms in the Seas. He presumeth therefore humbly to Dedicate these unworthy Papers unto Your Lord-

*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

Lordship's favourable Perusal, that if perhaps Your Lordship shall find any thing therein, which may conduce to the ends aforesaid, he shall heartily rejoice, to be so happy in contributing, though never so small a Matter, towards Your Lordship's Attainment of Your Desires: And knowing there can be nothing of this Nature written, but some will be Male-content, and spurn at the same; and perhaps, think that the Bolt is shot at them, which will be their great Mistake; yet may their Malice stretch so far, as may be to the injury of him, and his Innocent Indeavours:

A 4

Where-

## *The Epistle Dedicatory.*

Wherefore he humbly prays Your Lordship, favourably to Pardon the Errors therein, to accept his well-meaning Endeavours, and also take him, and it, under Your Lordship's Shadow and Protection ; and screen them from the scorching Fury of the Malicious : And that Your Lordship's great Industry and Endeavours, may prove to the Advance of the *Naval Affairs of England* ; to the Overthrow of the Enemies of our *Maritime Peace* ; to the settling us in our *Maritime Dominion* ; to the Honour, Safety, and Wealth of Their Majesties, and Their Kingdoms ; to due Honour and Praile to

*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

to Your Lordship for Your great  
Care and Labour, and all to the  
Honour and Glory of God, is the  
Prayer of

*Your Lordships most Humble*

*and Obedient Servant,*

Henry Maydman.

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T H E



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# THE PREFACE.

**I**T is high time to lay our Hands heartily to advance, and promote the growth, and strength of the Navy, when our Neighbours especially are so busie about the same thing ; and do make very large steps towards the pushing hard for the Supream Command of the Narrow Seas ; which is, and ever, from Antientest Histories, was granted, and accounted to be the Right of the Imperial Crown of England, whose Kings have always been very Jealous of any Competitor, or Rival, as an Italian may be of his Mistress : And they have not spared any manner of cost, of either Blood, or Treasure to maintain, and preserve it, when-

## The Preface.

whensoever it hath been questioned; as it hath been often done in former times, as by History appears.

I mean, by Growth an Encrease, by a Progression, for all our Neighbour Nations doe so; so that my Thoughts drive me to Implore the King, and Estates in Parliament, That when it shall please God that Ireland shall be in security, that they would put themselves in such a posture of defence with France, as to the Nazal part, that England must be content to be at that constant expence for many Years; I mean, to maintain such a constant force at Sea, sufficient to repel the Power of France, and so to continue it in a constant action; and never to slacken a hand, although the French shall decline Equipping of great Fleets, and shall only keep together a Body of a Fleet to act on a surprize of our lesser number of Ships, which shall pass the Seas together; or else to make some sudden De-  
pradation.

## The Preface.

pradations on our Coasts, or Descents into Ireland or Scotland, to fill our hands at home ; I say, England must resolve to be at the constant charge, of keeping a great Fleet in continual Action, if ever the Nation hopes to have any Peace or Tranquillity ; for it is only the Navy under its Monarchical Government, as in Church and State Established, by God's Assistance, can bring any lasting Peace or Happiness to this Nation. It might be asked, what shall we do with them ? I answer, It is easie to find them Employment, and that they bring in their charges, and make the Nation Rich ; and how I will shew hereafter. It was observed by the Romans, in their Contest with the Carthaginians, that when the Carthaginians had given them a great blow at Sea, and Destroyed the greatest part of their Fleet, they despaired of Recruiting ; but when they saw there was no safety for them, without they did

## The Preface.

did gain the Domonion of the Seas, they set heartily about it, (and in time) with many hard Tugs, and many great difficulties gained it; after which the Carthaginians declined, and in fine lay at the Victors Feet; who if they had maintained the Masterie of the Sea, had never Submitted to the Yoke, but might have found them Work in Sicily, Spain, or in their Enemies Country; but for want thereof, had the War brought to their own Doors; for whatsoever Nation hath the Sovereignty of the Seas, shall be courted by all the World; for it is in his Power, to make any of the Nations in Europe, to live Unhappy, Uneasie, and in Poverty, and force them to keep the Product and Manufact of their own Countries to themselves, and shall not have any Commerce with any Forreign Nations, but at a deer and uncertain Rate; and for their Colonies abroad, will soon loose them: So it would

be

## The Preface.

be a very great Policy in us, now in our Wars with France, to bid at a very great Rate, at all the Governments they possess in the West Indies: And also, to Scourge them from the Banks of New-Found-Land; It would utterly Ruin their Navigation at once, it being their cheif Seminary for Seamen, beside their Privateering; but for the handling them, I will leave it untill I have projected or found out a way for England to reassume her ancient Glory and Prowess, in her Naval Affairs, and the Command of the Narrow-Seas, which we have lost in a great degree; or at least eclipsed; the Reasons thereof I shall shew in the ensuing Discourse; the Recovery whereof, will cost great Labour, and much expence of Blood, and Treasure; which, if gained, will soon repay the Nation: And therefore it must not be grudgingly parted with, nor with slow and slack Proceeding gone about; but

## The Preface.

but must be with vigorous Prosecution, and nimble Application followed, until the main point be over; the which, if not gained speedily, I fear it may prove too late afterwards: But hoping it is not too late already, I will address my self to a means, whereby we may assume our former Prowess. To compare our former Actions done, with handfuls of Men, and Cracknels of Ships, for about Thirty five Years past, with our Bulwarks, or Castles of Ships, Multitudes of Men, and vast Expence of Treasure; for about Twenty five Years last past, and downwards, would find no Parallel, but be cause of Grief. For my part, I am well assured, That no Polity, or well-ordered Government, having been a long time in a well settled, and thriving Method and Government, can undergo any Material Change, without endangering the whole Polity thereof, to be unhinged and cast asunder, even as by taking

## The Preface.

king away a Wheel, or Limb, material of a Jack, Watch, or Clock; which puts me in mind of that old Maxim; that considerable evils, were better to be suffered in a settled Government, than to alter it, fearing it would break the whole Frame, and Order thereof; and fearing, nay, knowing the Affairs of the Navy to have undergone of late great Alterations, which I fear, have broken the Frame thereof; and instead of Old and Landable Methods, there hath been introduced Novel and Troublesome Inventions, which have, and do nothing, but make a dust and smoak about Business, and perturb, disquiet, and cloy the Affair, and perplex all that serve in it; making it dilatory and chargeable; for it serves as Mudding the Water doth to catch Fish; for Expedition is the vital Spirits of Naval Affairs, and whatsoever Methods procure, that with safety and less charge, must certainly be the better; for Method

## The Preface.

is of great use in the Affair without, which it cannot perform any Laudible Action: It is even as Salt to season, without which it would be insipid; so likewise if you put in too much, it will be offensive; so is Method in Naval Affairs; if it be too copious, large and intricate, it proves as a Remora to Ships; It hinders, perturbs, opens the Doors for Delays, Pretences, and Protraction of Dispatches, so that the Affair is made Dilatory, Dull, and Heavy in its Actions; thereby to remove which, I will, by God's Assistance, shew in the sequel, which are the Novels introduced, and what the Antient, that the Good and Evil may appear; and what I suppose is hurtful to the Affair; and therefore to be expugned, and what of the Old Methods are best to be retained, and what New; that the Affair may resume its Renown and former Glory in the doing, which I shall be forced to open the Doors, almost of every Office,

## The Prefacer

Office, and shew you what they do there, and tell you what is better to be done, and what left undone; but of each, I'll assure you, I will be very Brief and Concise, and also, be very Tender towards the Affair; being not desireous to expose the Affair, nor any Person therein, to Obscurity or Contempt, and that my Proceedings therein, be not void of Rule or Method; I will confine my self to the Ten Heads, following; viz,

### F I R S T,

*The Admiralty Office, or the  
Office of Lord High Admiral of  
England, &c.*

The Preface.

SECONDLY,

*The Government of the Navy  
Office.*

1. *The Treasurer, and Treasury Office.*
2. *The Comptroller.*
3. *The Surveyor.*
4. *The Clerk of the Acts.*
5. *The Commissioner for Victualling  
Accounts, the Clerk of the Petiti-  
ons, and Clerk of the Ticket-Of-  
fice.*
8. *The Commissioner for Assignment of  
Cash.*

THIRD-

Preface.

## The Preface.

THIRDLY,

*The Yards.*

1. *The Commissioner.*
2. *The Clerk of the Checque.*
3. *The Master-Builder.*
4. *The Store-keeper.*
5. *The Master Attendent.*
6. *The Clerk of the Survey.*
7. *The Rope-house.*
8. *The other Officers.*
9. *The Officers of the Ordinary.*

The Preface.

FOURTHLY,

*The Victualling Office.*

1. *A Comptroller.*
2. *A Surveyor.*
3. *A Treasurer.*
4. *An Out-rider, or Riding Surveyor.*
5. Clerk Accomptant of Receipts, Issues, and Returns, a Clerk of the Actions of the Board, a Clerk of the Cutting-house, a Clerk of the Cooperidge, Cutters, Salters, Boat-Takers, and Wharfingers.
6. Agents, and Store-keepers abroad.

FIFTHLY,

The Preface.

FIFTHLY,

*The Clother, or Slopseller.*

2. *The Purser, or whom the Slopseller shall get to issue.*
3. *The Mariner Buying, and the Paymaster Defalking.*

SIXTHLY,

*The Clerical, or Ministerial part thereof.*

The Preface.

SEVENTHLY,

*The Government of the Ships at Sea, viz.*

1. *The Captain and Lieutenant.*
2. *The Standing Officers, and the rest of the Company.*

EIGHTHLY,

*The Seminary, and Maintaining of Seamen, viz.*

1. *The Chest.*
2. *The providing for the Poor Male Children of the Nation.*
3. *The Encouragement of Fishery.*
4. *Merchants Employments.*

NINTHLY,

The Preface.

NINTHLY,

*The necessary Measures to be taken in  
our present Wars with France, and  
in point of Balancing of Trade for  
the future.*

TENTHLY and LASTLY,

*A brief Summary of the whole  
Work.*

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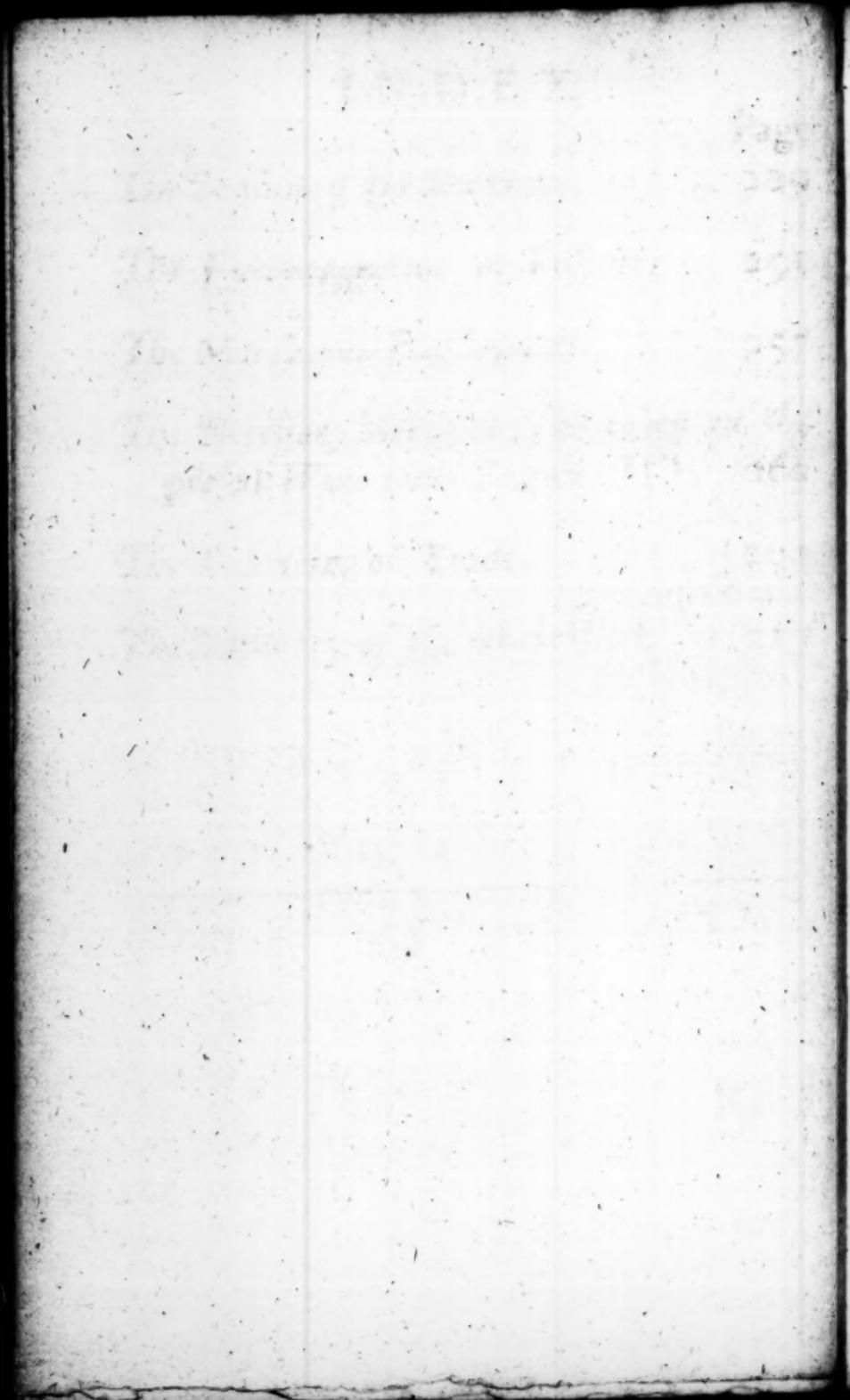
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# Naval Speculations, AND Maritime Politicks.

## I. Of the Admiralty, or the Office of Lord High Admiral of England.

 HIS Office is of great Antiquity, and of as great Trust; for as far as I have read thereof, it alwaies was put into the Hands of some Peer of the Realm, or Relation of the Crown; of Experienced Fidelity to the Crown, and of known Wisdom, Valour, Conduct and Justice: I speak of that part of the Admiralty, which consists in the Managing

B and

2 **Naval Speculations, Or,**  
and Fighting of the *Navy Royal of England*: There being also Dependant on the said Office of Admiralty, all the Naval Affairs, that shall happen between Natives and Strangers, *viz.* Controversies within any of the Bounds of our Seas or Rivers, or any where else, if it come within the Power or Custody of any of our Admirals, or of our single Ships of War, whose Case may be brought under the Cognizance of the *Lord High Admiral*, in his Court; where all Controversies arising, are Pleaded and Judged by Advocates and Judges, who are certain Doctors of the *Civil Law*, which is the same in all Christian Nations; and on which hangs all the *Maritime Law*, Ancient and Modern: As the Laws of the Ancient Romans, Phoenicians, Rhodians, Carthaginians, the Laws of Oledron, Prior and Consul; the British, Belgick, and Baltic Laws, are all grounded on the Civil Law; the Municipal Laws of each King-

Kingdom, State, or Province, only differing.

But my purpose being now to speak of the *Navy Royal of England*, of the Oeconomy and Government thereof, which is at present Executed by Seven Persons of Honour, thereunto Commissioned by the King's Majesty, to Execute the Office of *Lord High Admiral*; which is to Govern, Fight, and, if need be, themselves in Person to go to Sea in the Wars, or to Convey the King, Queen, or Royal Family, whither they shall Command them. And likewise to commission Admirals, Vice and Rear; Captains and Lieutenants, Judges and Advocates; as also Warrant Officers, *viz.* Standing Officers, such as Purfers, Boatswains, Gunners, Carpenters, and Cooks of Ships, which are constantly bourn on Ships at Sea, or at home in Harbour, called Ship-keepers, or Standing Officers: All the other Warrant Officers, saving the Chaplains, are made by the

4 **Naval Speculations, Or,**  
*Navy-board, Chyrurgeons-Hall, &c.* The Admiralty also Commissions the principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy, Commissioners and Warrant Officers of the Yards ; the particulars of which I shall mention, when I shall come to treat of them in their stations.

Now, in the Choice of all these Officers, there is and ought to be exceeding great care taken, to choose Loyal, Valiant, Wise, and Just Men, Fearing God and not Man, being well approved of for settled Principles, to maintain the present Government, both in Church and State, according to the settled Laws of the Kingdom, ever since the Reformation. I say, into the great and general Commands, there should be such Men put, as was never obnoxious to the known Fundamental Laws of the Kingdom. If there be other Choices made, the Affair will go on at an ill rate ; and you will see Parties made, and other Parties discouraged ; who will

will strive to promote and advance, all that are of that Party he does lean towards, and wavers in his Judgment towards others : And when he has the Scale of Justice in his Hand, and the Party he favours not, has sufficiently over-ballanced it, yet his Hand will be apt to shake, and give it a Tip the other way : I say, a Person that has been a favourer of those that have oppugned the well-ordered, and well-setled Church, the well-Consti-tuted, Moderate, and Free Monarchy ; The Subjects, I say, of this Monarchy, are Free Men, and not Slaves ; Imprisoned, Judged, and Condemned, by their own Parity, and by no other Laws than their own Representatives makes, whom themselves choose ; which Government is admired, and wished for in other Countries ; I say, That Person will never Deal any Trumps to any Hand but to his own Party : Whereas Unity and Concord in any Polity, or great Affair, agrees with the Health

6 **Naval Speculations**, Or,  
and Welfare thereof; but Discord and  
Division, I am sure, tends to nothing but  
to Distraction and Confusion. The old  
Maxim to *Don Juan de Austria*, in the  
*Netherlands*, (*of Divide and Rule*) is not  
applicable here. So that Division in any  
Polity must needs weaken; and on the  
other side, Union begets Vigour and  
Strength. As for Example, If a Man  
had a great Family, and great Affairs go-  
ing on, or some great Machin to make  
or manage, I should wonder, if he should  
choose for his principal Instruments, Men  
of different minds, in most material Points,  
whereby a Man is distinguished from a  
Brute, viz. his Opinion of his Masters  
Government of his Family, both in Spi-  
rituals and in Temporals; for if he wavers  
in that Opinion, he can never be a good  
Instrument in that Machin: But as his  
Degree or Magnitude in that Affair is, so  
will he the more or less clog and hinder  
the Affair. As for Example, What was  
designed

designed by God Almighty at *Babel*, by altering their Languages, but to confound their Works? It is indeed inferred there, that instead of Bricks they brought Mortar, whereby we understand it as construed only in the Labourers. But may we not infer, that the Overseers and Principals were also confounded? And may we not conclude, That the greater the Post is of the Dissenting Party, the more capable he is to bring or cause Confusion and Destruction? I am sure, in any less Affair it is also true. If a Man keep but two Servants to Work, if they alwaies differ and fall out in their Opinions concerning their Master, his Work goes on but slowly, and not with any good luck, nor can he hope to prosper; wherefore he were better to part with one of them, and take in another that is suitable to his mind, in his opinion agreeable to the former: Then will some be apt to say, That now he is like to thrive worse; for

8 **Rabul Speculations**, Or,

they agreeing so well in their Opinion of their Master, in Spirituals and Temporals, that let the one do never so much damage to his Mastets Service, the other will never discover it; and so will they knit together in the sin of wronging their Master. But the other Party before, who differed, is of a melancholly serious Temper, full of thoughts, and but vainly tenacious of his own Opinion of his Master. But notwithstanding that, he is a true Servant, and will follow his Business diligently, and neither do, nor suffer to be done, any wrong to his Master; a modest Man, for you may perceive his Justice, the smallest things will not pass by him, much more the greater; and his tenderness of Conscience proceeds from his Religious Mind. And a great deal more such stuff, and kind of sayings, may be objected against Unity or Uniformity of Persons, in the most material points of a Christian, towards their Master.

ster or Governour. This is such counterfeite Ware, as hath been put upon the World so often, and so long already, (and known to be such) that I do admire in my heart, that it dares to appear any more, (I hope, it will not.) But yet out of the confidence it ever hath assumed, and observed to be well furnished with, and still laying hold of that Jesuitical Maxim, *viz.* That never let any denial slacken your paces, still, towards the attempting to be nearest, the greatest, and important Affairs, and in it, if it be possible; so that, let what will be uppermost in the State, yet in points of Spirituals, if it erect a Chappel, be sure to purchase a chief Seat in it; that he might appear a principle Member, but only to be in a Capacity to serve the Party; whose over nice Consciences will well reward their Jesuitical or Pharisaical Dissembler, with Huzza's of the Mobile, and applaud his Person in a Crowd, for that which they are told by some

10 **Rabul Speculations;** Or,

some Body of him, of his Wisdom, Justice and Piety (of which he may neither be guilty, nor they care to know the Truth of what they say :) But this is all the while Trick, Intriegue, and Design, which hath gulled the World, and the greatest Men thereof; they being not deep-Sighted enough to espy it; but meerly Choused them of their own Reason and Justice, and put upon them that false and counterfeit Maxim, of, Let the Master of that great Affair, never take care of the said Servant, who had the right Opinion of him; but he being in the right Road, and a true Work-horse in the Team, give him little or no Meat, never stroak him; yet he will continue to Labour in his right Road, to his Lives end: But the other Servant, the Melancholly, modest, thinking Servant, as he was stiled even now; he must have the best Perferment; he being as a Resty Jade in a Teath, he must be well Fed, have the best Harness, and  
be

be well stroaked, or else he will Kick and Fling, Strike at the Master, Start out of the way, pull Backwards rather than Forwards, and out of his Sullen and Dogged nature, overthrow the Load, altho it be to his own Ruine: But this is a very wrong Policy, not void of Injustice, Imprudence and Indiscretion, altogether im-politick, and long since experienced upon the first Broachers and Practisers of it: I will only affirm this, That the Man who is an honest, well-Deported, Temperate Man, capable of the busines, Religious, according to the Established Government of the Church, and also of the State, never Starting nor Wavering; an Assertor of the moderate Monarchy of the Kingdom, as by Antient Laws settled, is the best, and most likely to do the Publick Service, without disquieting the Affair, void of all Trick, Intrigue, or Design; and the more Knowing, Able, and Just Men of such kind, are put into the Affairs of the

12 **Naval Speculations, Or,**

the Navy, the better will it Prosper, and come into a Regular Government: And let Party-makers, Trickers, Designers, and such as carry half Faces, or, as I may say, changeable with the Times, let them know, that no Man in his right Senses, can deem them to be either Honest, Just, or Good Men, or of any Religion; whose Vertues lies hid in self-interest, which is the very Bane of all Governments of Kingdoms or States, Bodies Politick, Military and Civil.

Now, I say, if private Interest shall rule the Roast in this great Affair, whereon the Glory and Welfare of the Nation does depend, and Offices shall be disposed of to Friends and Relatives, or for Lucre, Bribery, &c. then may any one Judge, what Able, Qualified, Honest, and Just Persons will Trump up at such Terms; for the best and most deserving Men, will never buy their Chains and Fetters at such Rates (for so I may term them)

them:) For he that takes an Employment, or Office of Trust upon him, if he be a just and good Man, must reckon himself Bound, as I may say, in the Nature and Stile as an Apprentice to the King, in that Affair; and thus his Terms runs, and must be Employed to serve the King, Night and Day, in that Affair, and never to absent himself without the leave or Connivance of his Superior Officer, nor to dispose of any of his Time or Service to any other Master or Service; and for his Reward, to have such Allowaoce of Wages, Diet, &c. Now, if this Man does Honestly and Faithfully, so serve his said Master both by Day and Night, neither Purloyning, Stealing, Wasting, nor Embezeling his said Masters Goods, nor to his Power suffer it to be done by others, but hinder the same, nor frequent Taverns, Tipling-houses, Gameings, nor use Cursing, Swearing, nor any Lewd Living; but, in all things, behave himself as an Honest

nest, Just, and Good Servant, which I think is near the Words and Import of an Indenture, and is also well near the duty of every one that enters into, or takes upon him a Publick Office or Employment of Trust, where Wages, &c. is allowed: I say, if he does discharge his said Duty, he may very well deserve his Compensation of Wages, &c. affixed or allowed to his said Office by the Admiralty; and not to spend much Time and Money to make Interest, and Fee largely for it, to come in by private Interest; but to study faithfully to serve, and endeavouring to be well skilled in the Affair, and to wait in his Station patiently for his Advancement by his merit unto some higher degree, when it shall happen to fall, by either the Death or Removal of his superior Officer; for this is a sure rule that the worst Officer will bid the highest for the Betts, knowing that he dares not come to the Touch or Proof of his Abilities;

ties; and it is implied at the same time of his compact, that he may Purloine, Steal, Embezzle, and do Wrong to his Masters Goods, or any other, that shall come under his reach, to benefit himself, to pay himself of whatsoever Monies, Time and Friends has cost him in the Pursuit thereof; and is so *ment by his Superior*, to have a larger Tither or Scope to do it, without being turned out, or reproved for it; or else he is very unjust to him, and in plain Terms, hath Cozened him of his Moneys, Treats, Obsequious Observances, and slavish Attendance; for it is a sure rule, that the Judge that buyes his Commission, will sell Justice to repay himself; which puts me in mind of what I have Read in the old Manuscripts, of the Kings House-hold Servants; That the Lord *Steward*, and Lord *Chamberlain* of the House-hold, in their respective Pre-cincts, did declare in a Written Table of Establishments, what Office was next to supply

16 **Naval Speculations, Or,**

supply the Vacancy, either by Death, Defect, or Removal of the next above it. In which order, as long as it was kept and observed, it appeared to be an orderly Family, excellent, and beautiful in its Government, and served for the purpose intended, *viz.* the Service of their Master, the Glory, Beauty, and Splendor of the Court ; and hath been said thereof, by Foreigners seeing it, as the Queen of Sheba said of Solomon, *Happy are these thy Servants that stand before thee, to hear thy Wisdom, and see this Order.* But what Corruption hath brought it to ever since, is not difficult to relate : So say I of the Navy; if the like Order were made and observed, and such a known method were Registered in every Office of moment, it would be a great Settlement, (as it hath been formerly) it would be an encouragement to all Officers to be Honest, Painful, and Just in their respective Stations ; and endeavour to be approved and experienced

Men,

Men for their Abilities ; and not to grind and extort Fees for Reward, and to raise their Profits by Intricacies, and dilatory Pretences, for to bring about their Designs, to enrich themselves betimes, lest they should be turned out, and not be able to live afterwards : But to wait patiently, and expect to rise by their Merit unto better Preferment, as their lot of Succession shall happen ; and not fear to be turned aside, and be put out of their Livelihoods, if they faithfully act in their station ; altho' some are offended at them, and by their private Picque shall inform against them, and so be dismiss'd for doing their very Duty ; and never so much as have an Hearing, or so much as know for what they are turned out, as of late years it hath been practised. Such Proceedings, I am sure, is beside Justice ; and that no Man but would endeavour to avoid such a Lot, by breaking the Rules and Methods which are prescribed them (when they

18 **Natural Speculations**, Or,  
know it will be their fate, if they do not  
violate their Orders to please some men.)

But heretofore it always was the Method, if any one had done a Crime worthy of being discarded, they were sent for, and permitted to answer their Accusations; and had that Justice done them, which the Antient Romans used, as is mentioned in the *Acts of the Apostles*; and not to proceed to Judgment, until the Accusers came Face to Face; yet they were Heathens.

Now, I have furthermore to offer, That if Officers have Commissions or Warrants granted them, and have not at the same time given them ample and sufficient Instructions to act by, in their Execution of the same, (in the performing of which they shall be safe and blameless, altho any Superior be offended;) and also if Instructions be given to one Officer to Act thus, and to another Inferior to make no mention of his Obedience

dience to the former; but that their Instructions are as different, and as contrary, as Light is to Darkness.

It certainly must be, instead of procuring Unity and Concord, a casting a Stumbling-block into the Affair; and be a cause of many to fall either into Discord and Divisions, which is a vexation to them, and an hinderance to the Affair; or else under the guilt of breaking, or laying aside their Instructions, and act according to the pleasure of their Superior; then say I, Rules and Methods are of no farther use; and the Service rendred only to truckle to the will and pleasure of the Superior; the evil whereof will not be small. So that the Affair must of necessity prove to be the Expence of vast Treasure; the Service done therein very uncertain, and must attend and wait upon the Humotir, Profit, or Pleasure, of every individual Commander, or Superior Officer, of a Fleet, Office, or Ship; which

never was the Proceedings of the *Navy* formerly, nor, I hope, never will be; if it be, it would be the prostituting the Glory of the Nation to private Interest; and the prostrating it at the Feet of a few, who may, in time, be able to shake the Quiet and Felicity of the Nation at their pleasures; and be formidable to those that Nourished and Fed them from their low Estate. Wherefore it hath been ever observ'd, by all Kingdoms, States, and Governments, to be jealous of any Army, or Military Power, that they have in their greatest need been constrained to employ; to be sure to bind them to the strict Observance of Orders, Rules, and Methods of the King, and his Councils, or his Chief Ministers near him, to whom he commits the Command of them; he residing with him, and in his Councils, and communicates the Affair to the King and Council: So likewise States do Theirs, to the Order of  
the

the Senate ; and whensoever their Commanders shall disobey, or break their Orders, they are immediatly Jealous of their Security, and do not easily pass it by, as may appear in the *Roman Histories* ; yet they fell under it at last : Notwithstanding their Care, and also the Care of their Emperors, for the Erecting the *Pretorian Gaurds* for their own Safety ; yet they exposed themselves to the dispose of the said Guards : For how often was the Empire translated, and the Imperial Crown put upon the Head of whom they chose : As likewise the *Mamalucks of Egypt*, and the *Fannisaries* of the *Ottoman-Empire* : So that, I say, all Nations have been careful to have their Military Men religiously to Observe their Orders, in their Commands ; and to have all Officers have their Instructions for their Duties, in their Respective Places, and their Dependance for Preferment from the *Lord High Admi-*

22 **Rabat Speculations**: Or,  
rat, under the King, for the Sea; and  
from the Lord General, under the King,  
by Land; who, except in very Urgent  
and Sharp Wars, is near unto the King,  
and in his Councils: Yet there is none  
bearing Command under the King, but  
are to act themselves, according to In-  
structions prescribed them; and also to  
preserve their Sub-Officers in their re-  
spective Stations, they acting according  
to their Instructions; for the breach of  
which they are accountable to the Com-  
missioners of the Navy, who are to ex-  
amine into it, and to inform the Lord  
*High-Admiral* thereof.

Wherefore, as I said before, if there be  
not a Harmony in the said Instructions, but  
are of different Meanings; so that no cor-  
cordance can be interpreted from them,  
neither do they speak the particular Du-  
ties required of them, but is all left to the  
uncontrolled Will of the Superior  
Commanding; then is the Affair in a  
loose

loose Posture, without true Method of Government; and is, consequently, in much Commotion, disorderly, unquiet, and distractedly confused, and at the will of the Superior commanding, and can attain no Laudable Action; and at a Prodigious, and uncertain Expence of Treasure; and grievously burthensome to the Nation, and to the Inferior Officers, and Mariners, serving under them: I say, when ever the *Navy* is under such Predicaments in its Government, it is running in the Plain rode to Ruine, and the total Loss of *England's* Glory, and the Sovereignty of the Narrow Seas; the which God in his Mercy prevent.

## II. Of the Principal Officers, and Commissioners in General.

THEY are Commissioned by the Lord High Admiral; whose Office is to execute all Orders from the Admiralty, for fitting out of Ships, what allowance of Men, the Unrigging and laying them Up, Building and Repairing of Ships or Houses; they direct the manner of doing it; they represent to the *Admiralty* the Quality and Condition of Ships, Houses, Docks, &c. the Qualities and Conditions of all Officers, for Preferment; viz. Warrant-Officers, if not some Commissioned: In fine, they represent the whole Affair of the *Navy* to the *Admiralty*, and receive Orders from them; which they put, and cause to be put in Execution, by making By-orders grounded upon them: They Con-

Contract, and Pay for Assign-Bills, for Payment for all Stores, Wages, and Vi-  
ctuals, and all the Expence of the *Navy*; and Audite all the Accompts, and avouch all the Payments to the Treasurer, by a Ledger; which Ledger the Pay-Master of the *Navy*, for the Treasurer, passes into the Exchecquer every Year, which undergo the Examination and Casting again of the Auditor of the Exchecquer; which Ledger contains the Treasurer's Debtor and Creditor Accompt; which Examination being over, the Treasurer hath a *Quietus* out of the Exchecquer, for his Acquitment. But yet, in general, these aforesaid Commissioners are of very great Trust; for they so negotiate the Affair of the *Navy*, that not an Officer or Person in it, but what comes under their Cognizance: Their Office is partly Military, and partly Civil-Military; for they Execute, or Direct, all Councils of War, which in the Roads, or Rivers, where

26 **Royal Speculations**: Or,  
where no *Admiral* is, they are Deciders of  
all Controversies between Man and Man,  
concerning Debts to be defaulted out  
of their Pays: They have Power to  
mulct any Man's Pay, for Neglects and  
Offences committed: They examine into  
all Men's Facts; the lesser to punish  
by Pecuniary Mulcts; and the greater  
to represent to the *Admiralty*; and, in  
the Interim, to suspend them from the  
Service; and, in fine, to do Justice be-  
tween the King and the Subject.

To their Commissions from the *Admi-*  
*rality*, is generally added Commissions of  
the Peace, for those Counties where its  
thought the King's Affairs will lead them;  
whereby they are enabled to Act in Ci-  
vil Matters, by doing Justice to any ap-  
pertaining to the King's Affairs; to de-  
cide Matters of Justice between any in  
the Yards, or in their Travels; com-  
mit any to Prison for Burglary, Murther,  
or Petty-larcony; and may sit on the  
Bench

Bench at Assizes, or General Quarter-Sessions: And, in fine, may do any thing that a Justice of the Peace can do, within the Limits of his Commission.

And for the Military, he is the very Image and Deputy of the *Lord High Admiral*; to put in Execution the Power which the *Admiralty* delegates unto him. And if he be President of a Council of War, he sits by virtue of a Commission from the *Lord High Admiral*, and as his Proxy.

In fine, It is a Place of very great Trust and Business, and requires Men of Knowledge, Wisdom, Justice, and Experience of the *Naval Proceedings*; and of Courage also, and Conduct; for they are many times called to Sea to wear Flags, such as have been made out of the Commanders at Sea, Knowledge, and Experience of the Navy, to soon decide any Controversie arising between Officers, concerning their respective Duties; else the Officers

28 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Officers will be apt to put Novelties, and  
to raise Scruples, if they know the Com-  
missioner is not able to decide them ;  
whose Umpirage ought to be absolute in  
any of the Yards ; also when he is a-  
lone. But when there is a Board, it may  
be appealed to the Board ; but if the  
matter be not very great and grievous, it  
were better to abide by his Umpirage :  
For the Others will not care to meddle  
within his Precinct, concerning any one  
in the Yard or Ordinary, except they  
do belong to any Ship in Extraordinary :  
And though there is a Captain, who will  
assume the Power ; yet a Commissioner  
may grant Relief to a Wronged Person,  
against the will of his Captain, if the  
Ship be within the Harbour. But, of  
late Years, the Commissioners of the  
*Navy* have been eclipsed, and lessened by  
the Captains, and the Rules of the *Navy*,  
and the Antient Customs, much broken :  
For the Authority and Busines of some  
have

have been stretched to that length, that they themselves know not the end ; but of that I shall speak, when I come to their particular Post.

As for a Commissioner of the *Navy*, I have known him to bear very great Authority in the Harbour, and at Pay ; and have done great Justice to particular Men, who have been wronged by their Commanders unjust and merciless Spleen ; so that the grieved Officer and Mariner have rejoiced, when they have come where a Commissioner was ; who would take the Captain to Task, for his Inhumane or Unjust Dealings, and reprimand him severely ; and, if worthy, would transfer the Matter to the *Admiralty*; where the Commissioners Representation should be heard, to the Others disadvantage. And if a Ship came into the Harbour, and the King's Affairs stood in need of hands, he would not scruple to order one Ship's Company to work on

30 Naval Speculations: Or,  
on another, to clear her for the Dock,  
Rigg, Re-fit, and what not; by which  
the Service might be furthered.

But, as I said before, the Case is much altered, and the Hinges of that Affair quite Lame; they will not move any way, except you would have them go Backwards: But I will not meddle with Particulars, lest I should come within the Account of an *Informer*, the which is reckon'd a thing of great Odium in the Navy-Affairs: But I greatly admire, that the Officers of the Upper-Rank should brand any one, that lets them know of any fowl Fact, with the Odium of an *Informer*, and seemingly, nay, openly, treats him unkindly: It has seemed strange unto me, (and looked like the *unjust Steward*, who not only Wronged his Master himself, but shewed others to do it; or looks like a Great Man's Steward, who discourages, or is angry with any one that comes to him, and tells him,

That

That such an one hath coufened his Master, or stollen his Goods, of which he is the Head Steward;) what might be the Reason, that generally, in the Navy-Office, and through the Practice of the Navy, one that Informs of Cousenage, or Theft in the Navy, is stiled with an Odium, and generally hated and discountenanced; as also, a Ticket-Buyer, or Ticket-Monger, as they in hatred term him; and is looked upon, as some ill Office done by him. But, in my mind, these Two Persons are the King's Friends; the former, to deter Thieves, and Unjust Men from their Evil Practices; and the latter I shall speak to, when I shall arrive at the Ticket-Office. But these Treatments are very strange to me, and seem, as if there were a general Agreement against them, as Evil Men, and not fit to negotiate in the Navy.

But I shall say no more at Present, but hide my Face with Shame; and follow

32 Naval Speculations: Or,  
low my Discourse of the Commissioners,  
who are of that weight in this Aflair,  
that if they be right, and good, and  
well-fitted to the Businesſ, they are the  
Vital Heat of the Affair; and should, as  
the Action do require, be multiplied, in a  
great War, with some Young, Sharp,  
Wise, and Just Gentlemen; who have  
Travelled, and are of Years for Grav-  
ity enough for the Affair, and of Experi-  
ence for Businesſ, to Post away to the  
Ports, where the Ships are newly arri-  
ved, and step on Board, and Examine  
what occasions the Miscarriages, either  
by Weather or War: And there shall he  
see to the Life, Neglects, and Misdemea-  
nors, in an high degree, by Comman-  
ders, and Officer's indiscreet Manage-  
ment: And, for want of which Visit,  
there is nothing known to the *Admiralty*,  
but a Letter from the Captain, whose  
Word passes at all Times, both for Himself,  
and all the Ship's Company. So the Ships  
are

are turned in, and others are turned out, to please him, without any Enquiry, how the other became damnified. The Custom heretofore was, That before one Ship was ordered in, the Commissioner of the Place, or one Extraordinary, as before-said, went on Board, and called all the Officers to Account, and surveyed the Defects, and examined the Cause of the Defects; and, if need were, to take their Oaths to it, if it were of Moment; and so gave the *Admiralty* an Account of the whole Busines, with every Circumstance matériel. And so the *Admiralty* knew all material Matters, and, by that means, did save the like Mis-chances for the future; which may amount to many Thousands of Pounds quickly, and Mens Lives, if it were so looked after; and would create a greater Care.

I forbear Particulars, for my former Reasons; but Miscarriages come very

D fast,

34 **Naval Speculations** : Or,  
fast, and no body blamed. I say, a Com-  
missioner of the *Navy* is of Great Use,  
if he sets to it with good Application,  
and be not baulked easily, nor blinded  
by Commanders ; and if he do not love  
his Ease or Grandeur too well, designing  
to set himself down, and rest himself on  
a Soft Chair, in a Warm House, with a  
good Sallary added to it ; and not care  
to contend with the Active Captain. Let  
him do his Pleasure, saith such an one,  
why should I trouble my self with a Cap-  
tain, full of Mercury and Sulphur ?  
What need I embroil my self with him ?  
I am in a good Station, and may be qui-  
et, if I will let things slide, and not let  
my Interest be called aloft at every Turn,  
to support me ; and if my Interest hap-  
pen to fail, I may, by a Misconstruction,  
or a wrong Representment, be called a-  
way to give Room for another, who has  
gotten a Commission for the same Place,  
before I knew on't. So that, I say, if  
such

such Proceedings be, that Men are laid aside by Representments barely, without ever being heard, it will cause all Men to sooth, cogg, slatter, and let Business slide, and nothing will run in its right course ; that a Man shall not know, in a little while, what were the Rules and Lines of Government of the *Navy*, there being so little sign left of them already. For, if it comes to pass, that the Customs and Practices of the Methods of the *Navy*, be broken by Novel and Unexperienced Officers, fraughted with sufficient ill Temper, no ways qualified, but boasting of their great Interests that brought them in, and will Maintain them there, in despite of all Complaints ; leaving over Methods at pleasure, refusing Justice, and squeezing Inferiors that do not bend or truckle the right way : I say, Such things as these will rend the Concern, and pester it, and be as bad as a *Quartane-Ague*, and spoil its

36 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Form and Beauty; and make the Nation  
groan under so ill amanged Concern,  
by means of its Weight and Burthen, as  
hereafter will more plainly appear.

Having said enough, I hope, of that  
kind Here, I will now proceed to the  
*Navy-board*; where I find a *Treasurer*, a  
*Comptroller*, a *Surveyor*, and a *Clerk of the  
Acts*, all Principal Officers; to which are  
added, a *Commissioner for Victualling Ac-  
compts*, and a *Commissioner for Assign-  
ment of Cash*, and divers other Com-  
missioners.

And, *First*, of the *Treasury*, and there-  
in the *Treasurer*; who heretofore was a  
Courtier, or Officer at Court, and was  
of the Privy-Council; and had Poundage  
for all his Payments, at Three Pence per  
Pound: But it being too large, by the  
encrease of the *Navy*, it was since brought  
to a Sallary.

He always assisted at the *Navy-Board*:  
But, I think, the Placing the *Treasury*  
so

so far off the *Navy-Board*, is not so well for Dispatch of the Affair ; for there might be an House built on the Waste-Ground on *Tower-Hill*, with a Dwelling for the *Treasurer*, and fit Offices for that Affair ; which would be near, and adjoyning to the *Navy-Office* ; wherein the *Ticket-Office* might also be contained, and be a means of more quick Dispatches with more Security ; the *Tower* being near, and Help soon called, to stop such *Trumults* and *Mutinies*, as I have seen about that Office ; and the Commissioners and Clerks may soon be there, to execute their Pays with ease, without loss of Time ; and Errors and Mistakes may soon be righted ; which the distance of it now doth greatly hinder : And also the *Treasurer* need not be charged with the Cash, no more than the *Treasurer* of the King's Household is ; but as the *Cofferer* is *There*, so the *Cashier Here* : The Pay-Masters also, being responsible Men,

38 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
and giving Security for their Employ-  
ments, as they do the *Treasurer* now,  
would be sufficient.

Now the Cashier is an Officer that  
the *Treasurer* puts in: He receives the  
Cash from the Exchequer, by Assignment  
upon some Branches of the Reve-  
nue; and sometimes receives it in *Specie*,  
from the Exchequer: But the Pay-Ma-  
ster of the Bills and Tickets, is an En-  
croachment that the Cashier has made  
upon the Pay-Master of the *Navy*, charg-  
ing him with the Moneys which he Pays  
in Bills and Tickets, and gives the Pay-  
Master only Bills and Papers for so much;  
which the Pay-Master must take care to  
bring to Accompt in his Ledger before  
spoken of.

The Pay-Master of the *Navy*, is a Re-  
sponsible Officer, and put in by the *Treasurer*, giving him good Security, and  
Discharges the greatest part of the Affair:  
They, and all the Sallaries of the said  
Office,

Office, were at the *Treasurer's* own Charge formerly, except one Clerk for the making up of Books. But how it is now, I cannot tell. And thus much of the *Treasurer*.

*Secondly*, The Comptroller is also a Principal Officer, who comptrolls all Payments of the *Navy*: His Office is to Inspect all Summs paid; and, by his Clerks, to cast up all Bills; the Ticket-Office also being under his Inspection. His Business being very large, is done by his chief Clerk, and Sub-clerks, and a chief Clerk of the Ticket Office, with Subs. Now, the Clerk-Comptroller should (with the Clerk of the Ticket-Office) be Warranted by the Admiralty, and give Security for the Actions of each Office; and the Sub-clerk only be put in by the Comptroller.

*Thirdly*, The *Surveyor* is also a Principal Officer: His Office is to survey all the Ships to be Built, or Repaired; as

D 4                   also

40 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
also, all Houses, Docks, and Stores, re-  
maining of Store-keepers every Year; as  
also, the Remains of all Boat-Swains,  
and Carpenters, coming from Sea; and  
to pass their Accompts, which he exe-  
cutes by his Assistant, or Out-riding  
Surveyor; but chiefly by the Clerk of  
the Survey, resident in every Yard, and  
presented to the Office by the Surveyor,  
but Warranted by the *Admiralty*.

I mention an Out-riding Surveyor;  
but there was never any one yet, nor  
Assistant to the Comptroller, nor Clerk  
of the Acts Assistant, until of late. But  
that Assistant, which I call an Out-ri-  
ding Surveyor, should be often at every  
Yard, and where any Ships do put in; I  
mean, Fleets; to survey any Damages,  
which any Ships do receive by Storm of  
Weather, or Accident of War; who  
should return the same to the Surveyor;  
and he communicate it to the Board, and  
they to the Admiralty, as I before-men-  
tioned.

tioned. Also, this Riding Surveyor should often be at all Timber-Falls, or where any Quantity of Timber is bought, and Marked for the King's Use ; and not to leave it wholly to Purveyors, of whom I shall speak in the Yards : And moreover, he should be the Measurer and Taker-up of all Ships, which are Taken into the King's Service, either for War, or Stores ; and not to leave it to Purveyors, as is usual : Also, he should be often Inspecting, and Surveying of the Ships in Harbor, how they are kept from Drops, their Masts, Yards, and Rigging, &c. of the Ships, whether they lie not, by bad Managing, in a Damaging Condition ; and give Orders for their Preservation ; and converting, and contriving it most for the Benefit of the Service ; Alterations on Ships, Hulks, Lighters, and Houses made ; Wells, Pumps, Docks, Conveyances of Water by Pipes ; Contrivances of Conveniences for

42 **Naval Speculations** : Or,  
for Stores ; and not only of the Store-  
Houses of the Yards, but also of all the  
Victualling Offices, Cooperidge Dwell-  
ings, &c. And in fine, all that apper-  
tains to the *Navy*; and not leave it  
wholly to Commissioners, Builders,  
Mast-makers, House-Carpenters, and  
Carpenters of Ships, and others usually  
resident, and acting there. I mean,  
when any considerable Buildings, or Al-  
terations and Repairings are needful to  
be made : This being all directly under  
the Inspection and Care of the Office of  
the Surveyor of the *Navy*, and his As-  
stant, or Riding-Surveyor ; and so to  
transfer the Account thereof, to the Na-  
vy-Board ; that they may be able to  
give Account to the *Admiralty*, whenso-  
ever it shall be required ; causing it to be  
entered into the Clerk-Surveyor's Office,  
at the Yards, and then to the chief Clerk-  
Surveyor's Office, whenever any Or-  
ders are made thereupon.

And

And now it is needful, I should mention one great Conveniency wanting in *Portsmouth* Yard, if not in others ; and that is, a large Well and Pump, and Pipes to convey the Water to some convenient Place, for the watering of Ships at the Water-side ; that their Boats might at all times of Tide, come and fill fresh Water, their Casks lying in the Boats ; that they be not forced to hoist them out and in, and roll them in the Dirt, with great labour, loss of time, destruction of Cask, and slaving out of the Men ; when a tenth part of the labour and time, and damages, would do it, if a little Charge, laid out for that Convenience, were bestowed : I admire at the neglect. I say, The Surveyor's Office would be of much greater Service to the King in the *Navy*, if it be attended with such good Application, as is herein hinted.

*Fourthly, The Clerk of the Acts, is also a prin-*

44 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
a principal Officer, signing of late; but,  
I conceive, that Officer was never in-  
tended formerly to act through the  
whole Series of that Affair, done at the  
Board; but as a Clerk and Accomptant,  
to assist the Board in their Contracts,  
Orders, Letters, Warrants, &c. Di-  
gesting and Clerking of Matters done at  
the Board; finding of Precedents, pre-  
paring and laying up of all Precedents and  
Papers ready for view, viz. all the  
Actions of the Board, except such Papers  
as fall under the *Treasurer*, *Comptroller*,  
*Surveyor*, *Commissioner* for *Victualling*,  
and *Commissioner* for *Assignment* of Casks,  
their respective Offices.

Now this Officer should Sign only  
under, as Secretary, to avouch he Action  
past by the Board, under his Registry  
and Notification: For it cannot be thought  
that he should have Skill and Knowledg  
in all the Affairs of *Treasurer*, *Comptrol-  
ler*, *Surveyor*, *Commissioner* for *Victualing*,  
*Accompts*

Accompts, and Commissioner for Assignment of Cash, their distinct and intricate Proceedings, well season'd with Justice; and to speak thereunto, and to cause the dispatch thereof equally, if not more than them. I say, It is inconsistent with Reason, to think this *Officer* ever was, or can be, capable to attain to the Insight, Skill, and Knowledge of those Affairs, which is required, and herein mentioned, to appertain to their respective Offices; and wherein is the Exercise of great Justice also: The doing whereof would perplex, molest, and make the Affairs full of Intricacies, and troublesome Methods; and be a means to mislead them in their Places, and cause delays in their Proceedings, or precipitate them in their Debates, when dispatches are required, so as I have elsewhere said: Too much Intricacies by Method multiplied, clogs, perturbs, molests, and hinders the Affairs in their dispatches; which is the Vital Spirit

46 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Spirit of all Naval or Military Pro-  
ceedings.

*Fifthly*, The Commissioner for *Victualing Accompts*, is to pass the Accounts of the Commissioners for Victualling the *Navy* under his Inspection; as also, the Pursers of Ships; and by his Chief Clerk, who should be warranted thereunto by the *Admiralty*, and giving Security for the Papers, Bills, and all Matters and Transactions in that Office depending; and to digest them into their proper Methods; and offer them to Inspection and View for Approbation; first, unto the Commissioner; and, by his Order and Direction, be presented to the Board, for Allowances they shall agree to; and by their Orders, to prepare Bills for their Signing, and Passing the Accompts.

The Sub-Clerk, or Clerk of that Office, should be put-in by the proper Commissioner: But the head Clerks of every

every Office, if they should be put in by the respective Commissioners, as they have been accustomed, as when the Navy-Affairs were of less quantity, and shorter Proceedings; even *Then* it was not void of *Interest*, Confusions, dilatory, promiscuous, and uncertain Proceedings; much more *Now*, when the Navy is swollen to so vast a Bulk, and a prospect of yet greater, that it would require to each of the said Offices a Head Clerk, well skilled, and every-way trained up in that Experience and Affair of known Fidelity, Justice, and Honesty; diligent and Industrious in his Attendence; I say, in the Navy now: As for instance; at the Primier Institution of the *Court of Chancery*, Six Clerks were enough to Clerk that Affair, under which Demonstration it still Runs: But after the encrease of the Practices, how many are there required, and how great and important a Six Clerks Office is, doth appear: So also here

48 **Nabal Speculations**: Or,  
here is Room for Eight Principal Clerks,  
that none may be delay'd, that attend  
their negotiations in the said Office, by  
Pretences and Demurs made by Under-  
Clerks, or Apprentices, for Lucre: And  
therefore these Clerks ought to be perma-  
nent, settled, and steady in their Em-  
ployments, with a prospect of Advance-  
ment; and that by a Table of Advancement  
or Establishment, for each Clerk's Pre-  
ferment, as formerly mentioned; and to  
have their Warrants from the Admiralty;  
and not to have their whole Hopes and  
Dependance hang upon the mutable  
Good-will of the Commissioner of that  
Office: And also, the Under-Clerks to  
be under the like circumstance of an Esta-  
blishment, for their Advancement by the  
Commissioners of the *Navy* Board: So  
will there be Able, Skilful, Modest, and  
Industrious Head-Clerks, giving Security  
for their Offices, *viz.* the Cashier, and  
Pay-Master of the *Navy*, Clerks of the  
*Ticket-*

Ticket-Office, Clerk-Comptroller, Clerk-Surveyor, Clerk of the *Board*, Clerk of *Victualing-Accompts*, and Clerk of *Assignment of Cash*: And the Under-Clerks would be Industrious and diligent, and all aspire to be expert, and able instruments, and be moderate in their Fees, and quick in their Dispatches, and with patience wait for their Advancement; which is an Object they see setled daily before their Faces; which should be as certainly their Reward, if they live, and be so approved of; even as unalterable, as the Laws of the *Medes* and *Perians* were.

The Clerk of the *Petitions* and *Requests* is grown, of late, out of the Clerk of the *Acts-Office*, and is a particular; and, I think, appointed thereto by him, having a small Apartment; where all Persons Petitioning for some small Dispatches; may have easie and free Access to put in their Requests, and receive their

50 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Answers, without delays; if it be well  
performed, and not delaid for Lucre; the  
due Execution of which should be well  
regarded; for many Persons attending  
for small dispatches, *viz.* to be Tran-  
ported, and expedited on Board their  
Ships, Entred into the Yards or Ships;  
and hundreds more of like sort, are in  
need of like dispatches, and wait there,  
being ignorant of their Proceedings.

The Care and Dispatch of that Office,  
I reckon, belongs to the Clerk of the  
*Acts*, or Clerk of the *Board*.

The Clerk of the *Ticket-Office* is also  
of great Trust: He is to Examine all  
Tickets, cast up the Wages, Examine all  
Pursers Victualling-Books, keep all Ma-  
sters-Books from time to time, sent by all  
**Cheques**, **Muster-Masters**, **Captains**,  
and **Pursers**: If he be a Man given to  
Bribery or Lucre, he may cast a great  
Scandal upon this Affair, and abuse the  
King's Service; because the Men's Tickets  
are

are all to pass through his Hands ; and he Acting alone, and apart, he may have opportunities for Protraction : But his Office is most immediatly under the Inspection of the Comptroller, but not of the Clerk-Comptroller : He ought to be a Man modest and moderate in his Fees, of great Patience, and Compassionate of poor ignorant Men and Women ; and of a nature easie to be talked to, by the Vulgar and Ignorant People ; and ready to put them in the Right-way, bearing with their weak Expressions, and idle Questions about their Business ; and not be of an elevated Mind, short and sharp Speech, expecting to have Sentences and Rhetorick spoken to him : For the People Soliciting that Affair, and also generally of the *Navy-Office*, are not much Lettered.

And now I am in the Way, I will give a Lecture for the Clerks, in general, of the *Navy* ; who, perhaps, may

52 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
come in time to read it, or to hear it from  
the Mouths of their Superiors, who have  
the Over-sight and Correction of them  
more amplified, and in a better Accent,  
and more suitable to their Capacity; and  
most likely to take Effect upon them;  
which is briefly thus: *viz.* to consider,  
that the Affair is of such great conse-  
quence, that the very Welfare of the  
Politick Body of this Nation does hang  
upon it; and that generally, the People  
that act in the Affair, are meer strangers,  
pulled and haulled into the Service by  
the Necessity of the Nation, to require  
Help of all People of the Nation, to be con-  
tributing to withstand our Foreign Ene-  
mies; to preserve the Honour and Trade  
thereof, and these People that are drawn  
into it, either by Force, Persuasion, or  
by Commutation, are generally not  
much skilled in Letters, and commonly  
Women-Solicitrixes, Wives, Widows,  
or Friends; and therefore, very testy,  
and very impatient of delays; well  
stockt

stockt with Curses, and hard Wishes; yet more than all, are grinded by their Creditors, and pinched to the heart by Poverty, and insupportable Necessities, the which is partly brought on them by their imprudent management of themselves and Family, when they have it: But, chiefly, the exigencies which the Affair puts them into, viz. Travel, Wounds, Sickness by Mischances, Wetness, Cold, bad Diet, Lodging, &c. yet more by the Methods and Proceedings of the *Naval-Offices*, whose compassions goe but a little way, to spare Money, or Advice, nay Liberty under their Commands, to provide necessary Relief at the best hand for themselves: For, first, when they come on Board, they have no Cloths; and to have them, the Methods are not, untill they have served Two Months: But, perhaps, e're that he stinks, or crawls with Lice, or Sick, if not all together: And then when

54. **Naval Speculations, Or,**

he has it, it is at a dear Rate, and perhaps not that which he wants; and none dares to Credit him, as I shall shew hereafter, on the Slop-seller's Part. But this being too long a Lesson for my Clerk to hear, I will leave this Subject unto another Place; thinking I have said enough, to move him to compassion towards the Sea-men, their Widows, and Fatherless Children; and to give them dispatches the easiest, quickest, and cheapest Way, in kind and Familiar Expressions, except they be rude and impudent towards the Clerk.

And here I will acquaint the Clerks, That when we did the greatest Feats of Arms at Sea, viz. with the Dutch their First War; with the Spaniard, in the Mediterranean, St. de Croix, and West-Indies, &c, and all the Wars we had in the Time of King Charles's Exile; the Navy-Office was so ordered, that a Man might have dispatched any Affair almost, at

at one Board ; and with the Ticket-Office and Treasure, in a Tides-Time ; and with the greatest ease imaginable, and cheapness too : For none were suffered to take any Fees publickly, but what was forced on them, and in private, with a modest Acceptance : But their dispatches were with all imaginable quickness, and every one endeavoured to exceed each other ; and strove who should serve the Publick best, and cheapest : For their publick Business were carried on with all imaginable Application, and it was a Crime for any one to absent himself from his Post, and not easily past over without very good Reasons given ; nor any kind of delays, by keeping any Bills, or Tickets, or Papers, in their hands, without dispatch, under pretence of not being at leisure : And for their quick Equipping of Fleets, and putting them into Action, there is sufficient Testimony and Proof remaining. Indeed, it did behove them to bestir themselves,

56 **Naval Speculations**: Or,

when they had the whole World upon their backs almost, at once, to deal with; and a discontent in their Bowels, at the same time; yet you see, with what Vigor and Resolution, Pains and Industry they waded through it, to the Terror and Amazement of their Enemies; the Situation of this Kingdom, and Benefit of its Ports; but the paucity of their Ships and Men, and smallness of their Provision of Artillery and Munition, was no small Obstacle.

Wherefore I conclude, that since the said Obstacles are removed far from us, and the Benefits, by God's Goodness, continued unto us, (unto which might be added an Heroick Monarch, with good constituted Laws,) why we might not, by the Divine Assistance, do as great matters by our Navy, as ever; which might produce us both Splendor, Peace, and Riches, I know not.

And therefore I conclude this Exhortation to the Clerks, that they be expert, pain-

painful, and industrious, moderate in their Fees; but of quick dispatches, which is the Life thereof ; and I doubt not, but that their Superiours will settle them a good Compensation, suitable to their Merit ; and an Establishment for their Advancement, as a Reward for their patient Expectation.

Sixthly, the Commissioner for *Assignment of Cash*, is of a late Comencement, but a very good Method : His Office is to inspect the keeping of a Ledger, by his Head Clerk of all the *Cash*, assigned to be paid by the Treasurer or Pay-master, in the nature of Debtor and Creditor, the Italian Accompt ; by which Book the Board may see the State of the Treasury, what hath been Received, and to what Uses it hath been paid, and what *Cash* remains to be Assigned : Also, he prepares Lists of what Bills or Tickets, Ships, Books, or Yards, are yet unpaid, and are presented to the Board, as often

as

58. **Naval Speculations:** Or,  
as necessity requires; that they may agree  
in the Order or Preference, what is most  
necessary or needful to be next assigned  
for Payment, out of what part and propor-  
tion of the remaining Cash; and of the  
next Receipts, as appropriated for this  
Use, and what for that; and according-  
ly they are Listed, and Assigned, and  
Paid in their courses, without any devia-  
tions, or preferences, as the said List  
runneth. If it be Rightly Executed, the  
method is laudable, if there be no delays  
nor preferences in the drawing the said  
Lists, but impartially assigned.

The Just and Impartial proceedings of  
this Office, is committed to the care of a  
Commissioner; who directs and orders  
the Head-Clerk therein, and he the Subs,  
for his Assistance: This is a Branch of the  
Comptroller's Office; but his Comptrol-  
ment, being of too large Business, is eased  
by this Commissioner, as is also, by the  
Commissioner for Victualing-Accompts:

The

The Other Commissioners also do contribute their Help, to see the due Execution of Payes of Ships, Yards, &c. They go to the Ports where Fleets ride, and give necessary Orders: But formerly, they went on Board the Fleet, and into Battles, and were of Council to the Flags: For, it has not been thought safe, nor expedient, for a general Flag to go without Coadjutors, or Assistants in Councils. I say, they have also noted the Transactions, and took notice of the diligent, careful, and industrious Officers; and who did a brave Action, he gave the Admiralty an Account, for Preferment and Reward; and the Careless, Slothful, Debauched, and Ill-behaved, he also noted to the Admiralty, for their Dismission: But for some small rewards, and other reprehensions, he had power to do himself, and never failed to do it.

So likewise, in the Ports, Harbors, and Yards, where any quantities of Ships were,

60 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
were, they visited, and spurred, enlivened, quickned, and dispatched the Affairs, making their Observations as aforesaid: Yet not to Eclipse the *Admiral's* Authority, or the Commissioner's of the Place; but all went on in a mutual Assistance to the Affair, in Unity and Concord; and whatsoever the One did, was approved of by the Other. But a Captain never attempted to Disobey, Contradict, or Dispute the Commissioner's definite Orders, within the Ports or Rivers; nor his Advice or Directions in points of Government abroad, if it were not opposite to the General's or Admiral's Instructions: But how it is now, and what Figure a Commissioner bears, is plain and obvious in proceedings of late, which brings me into

Thirdly,

## Thirdly, *The Yards:*

1. *The Commissioner.*
2. *The Clerk of the Checque.*
3. *The Master-Builder.*
4. *The Store-Keeper.*
5. *The Master-Attendance.*
6. *The Clerk of the Survey.*
7. *The Warrant-Office in Ordinary.*
8. *The Purveyors.*

*First,* The Commissioners formerly, if a Captain brought in his Ship, and was ordered to turn over this Company into another; the Commissioner seeing the emergency of the Occasion, and that it was for the Advancement of the Service; and that his Hands were enough to clear the

62 **Naval Operations**: Or,  
the former Ship, and fit her for the  
Dock, against the approaching Spring,  
or to clean her on the ways; and, at the  
same time, also to Ballast, Rigg, and  
Store the other, that so the Service might  
not be impeded or disappointed, the  
hands at the Dock prepared, and the  
Dock to receive her: I say, that they  
be not forced to be employed another  
way, and the Dock lie void, and a Ship  
full of Stores and Tackle lie by, for  
want of hands to clear her: The Com-  
missioner would immediately, either by  
word of Mouth, or Order in Writing,  
order, that so many of such a Ship's  
hands do This, and so many That, which  
was accordingly done: But of late, other  
Proceedings have been, and clean con-  
trary: Nay, I doubt, to further the  
Service, the Commissioner hath been con-  
strained to advance the Money imprest  
for the Yard, to pay the Men for do-  
ing it: And also, the Captain to re-  
fuse

fuse to let some of his Men to Hoyst out the Provisions, which he left in the Former, to put into the New-fitted Ship, without Moneys to Pay his Men for it ; If the Commissioner have protested he had no Money, the thing so lies undone, and the Provision lies in the Ship, until his good-will comes, or that he could not Victual the other without it ; and, at last, sendeth some hands for some of it ; and the rest, with the Ballast, Guns, and Stores, lies in her till she have slipt one Spring ; and, with very great difficulty, may be gotten into the Dock the last Tide of the Second Spring, the Dock lying empty all that while, and the hands prepared for her, for a shift, turned to some other work. O Prodigious Proceedings ! by one handful may be known the whole Sack.

How far a Commissioner's Authority runs in respect to a Captain now, I do not pretend to know ; but formerly I have known

64 **Naval Speculations** : Or,  
known it extended even to the ordering  
all his Ship's-Company in Harbor, as he  
thought good, for the Advancement of  
the Service: Nay, if the Captain (in  
Spleen) would under-rate any Officer,  
Seaman, or Servant, to prejudice him,  
the Commissioner would do him right ;  
and if the Captain should abuse any Of-  
ficer, or use any unreasonable Command  
towards any Officer, or any of his Com-  
pany, upon his first knowledge thereof, he  
would reprehend the Captain ; and if that  
were not enough, he would acquaint the  
*Admiralty* therewith, and become an Ad-  
vocate to procure Justice for the wrong-  
ed Party. I am sure he is sworn to do  
Justice, as a Justice of Pace is, and to  
act so between the King and Subject, in  
all Matters under his Cognizance ; and  
the like between Subject and Subject, or  
else I am mistaken. But if the Cap-  
tain's Commission be now too high for his  
reach, I know not, but will refer it  
to

to those, who gave them both. But this I know, that the Service is lame, and halts shrewdly thereby.

The Commissioners of the Yards have been of great use and service to the Affair; but how they are now, I have so lately given you a handful out of a full sack, that there is no farther need to declare.

Secondly, I come now to the *Clerk of the Cheque*, who is an Officer of great Trust, and musters and cheques all Men, both in the *Yard, Harbour, and adjacent Roads*, where he can come conveniently, as his Instructions import: He casts up all Mens Wages for their Services; makes and delivers Books for their Quarterly Payment, and cheques all absent time: He makes out Bills for all manner of Stores: He gives Warrants to the Victuallers, to issue Victuals to all Ships Companies, both ordinary and extraordinary, called *Petty Warrants*; and he is the Cashier to pay all Contingences of the Yard, *viz.* Petty Emptions,

Emptions, and all other Emptions and contingent Charges ; and the Commissioners Bills, with the Parties Receipts, are his Vouchers, to clear the Imprest Bills granted him, which are great Sums. His Office consists of many intricate and difficult parts, and requires an expert Clerk ; one that knows the Rules and Methods of the Navy ; a Man of good Judgment in Busines, sharp sighted, and crafty, to prevent the Shifts, Shams, and Cosenages, that else will be put upon him ; of Skill to discern the Goodness and right Qualities of the Stores served in ; to be vigilant, and watchful, that the Men be not out of the Yard, when they should be at Work ; or purloining and embezeling the King's Goods ; nor be not in their Beds, or at Ale-houses, whilst they should be attending the Work of their Nights and Tides, and yet be paid for it : and, in fine, to be a vigilant, painful, honest, and withal, a very just Man ; or else he

may

may do many Men much wrong, and discourage many good Men.

This Officer is of that general Use, that he had need be endowed with as many good Parts, as can be found to be gathered into one Man; I mean, Endowments of the Soul; as, Faith, Justice, Charity, and all Spiritual Graces: and of the Mind; as Wisdom, Patience, Affability, and all the intellectual Graces: and of the Body; as, Temperance, Chastity, Labour, and Industry, Vigilance, and Carefulness; and a true Observer of the Methods and Rules of the *Navy* and *Tards*; and no Breaker of those Rules, that are prescribed him in his Instructions, which are, or should be, as a Table of Commandments to him; And, in fine, if he be not well skilled and qualified, as he is in a station of much Service, so may he do much Disservice. As for instance, If he be a Man of no Skill or Knowldg in *Maritime Affairs*, (viz. a

68 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
meer Novice to all that Affair,) no good  
Clerk nor Accomptant, and in the general  
of negotiating, and doing of Busines, a  
Novice ; that is Incapability enough to  
make him useless, and rather, nay, is ex-  
tream hurtful to the Affair. For, if the  
King must put in Novices, and Pupils,  
into places of Busines and Trust, and to  
endure the Damages that ensue by it,  
and wait for their improvement, and fit-  
ness for it ; then Children were fitter for  
it, they may come to maturity : But if  
to the other Unqualifications, he be  
fraughted with ill Temper, Peevishnes,  
creeping Hypocrsie, Passionate, Trouble-  
some, Malitious, and Revengeful, full of  
Tricks, Intrigues, and Designs, Self-con-  
ceitednes, angry with one that does not  
flatter him, and that hath not the same  
opinion of him, that he hath of himself ;  
plotting and designing to enrich himself  
by new methods of his Office, breaking  
his Instructions like Cobwebs, with  
whom

whom Lies, and Denials of Truth are as frequent, as Kisses at a Wedding; and, in fine, makes every one swear to negotiate with him, to save himself harmless; except he learn to procure, and have ready in his Pocket, the Key to unlock his Temper, to have a dispatch suitable to his Time and Occasion; I say, such a Man is put in the fair Rode to do exceeding great damages to the Affair: But to particularize the Evils ensuing, were too tedious to number; and therefore I will leave him in the good Conceit he hath, that he that preferred him, will not fail to support him: Let business either truckle or slide, his Ends and Designs are sure to effect. I must needs say then, that the weight of the burthen is too heavy for the Nation to bear; and will make it groan, if many such are shuffled into business of moment, to serve private Ends.

*Thirdly,* The Master-BUILDER, who has the Over-sight, and all the Direction and

70 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Contrivance of the Building of all Ships,  
Boats, Vessels, Docks, &c. under the  
Inspection of the Surveyor, and Helps:  
He hath a sufficient Architecture, called his  
Assistant, Foremen, Master *Caulker*, Master  
*Joyner*, Master *Boat-Builder*, Master *Mast-  
Maker*; and all, in their distinct Stations,  
execute his Orders, and are material In-  
struments under him, to carry on the  
Machines, which he receives Orders for  
from Above. Yet he is not so absolute, but  
the Commissioner upon the place is his  
superior Officer, and may supersede, if  
he sees necessary; and is an Over-seer  
and Controller of him, and all other  
Officers in the Yard: Obedience he may  
command; but let him take care, it be  
for the Promotion and Advantage of the  
Service, and all is right.

This Master-Builder, I say, is the head  
of all the Ship-wrights, Mast-Makers,  
Joynters, Boat-Builders, Carvers, Paint-  
ers, &c. and is a most material Officer  
of

of Trust ; He and his Assistant, Signing for all Materials to the Store-keeper, for the issuing them ; who appropriates and appoints what Services they are issued for, by Notes, or Bills of Issues, by his Clerk allowed him, with an Office for that purpose. Yet I take notice of an Error in it ; viz. that although he does give a Bill for the said Issues, and therein specific for what Ship, &c. it is to be expended upon ; and the Accounts for that Work are so placed on the said Ship, or Work, with the Wages thereon, in the Accompts sent to the Surveyors Office : Yet it is not practised to take the Parties hands to the Receipt of the said Materials issued, who receives them, viz. the Carpenters of the Ships, Fore-men, or Overseers of the said Work ; so that they know not what Orders of Appropriation are issued for that use ; and thereby is left a Latitude, to direct the said Materials to any other use, and may prove a great abuse to

72 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
that Ship or Work; and may make it swell  
in the Surveyor's-Office, where the Board  
has only the view for their Satisfaction, to  
give the *Admiralty* account thereof: And  
I may say, be a dis estimation on the Con-  
tractors for the former Building, or Re-  
pairing the said Ship or Work, and prove  
to be an untrue Representation of the  
Affairs to the *Board* and *Admiralty*; and  
is an open Door for many Evils to enter  
at, which otherwise might be shut: The  
Evils are too many for me to mention, but  
may easily be conjectured.

And here I cannot let slip one great  
Evil in the *Navy*, viz. That a Ship  
which has been built out of the King's  
Yards, when she comes into the said Yards  
to be repaired, she shall be cobled up, and  
disregarded, and disparaged at a strange  
rate by every Builder, Assistant, Fore-  
man, nay, every ordinary Shipwright,  
in favour and imitation of what their  
Master-Builder saith of her; even he, I  
say,

say, hath also a Stone to cast at her ; and all this happens to her, because he that built her is not in request in the King's Service at that time : But if he were, then may he write to that Dock and Yard to be kind to her ; and by that is understood the meaning, *viz.* to give her due Repairs, and to spare no Costs to fit her forth. But if she hath no Friends, as I said, or Father, (as they call it,) she may be had into the Dock, and bungled up at a slighting rate, and turned out again, without having her full Repairs and Adornings, and put on Float to be done there ; the which often lies undone, and she is left open for the Weather to destroy her : Her Scuppers also may be left unset, whereby the Water runs down her timbers years together ; the Bolts undrove ; not Coats for the Masts, nor Tarpallings to keep her dry ; also not good Caulking, and abundance of Work undone ; the which the Builder says he can do in

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74 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
an instant; but the Ship being not wanted  
to be immediately fitted out, she is  
thus laid by; and the Builder certifies to  
the Board that she is ready for the Sea,  
when she wants two or three Hundred  
Pounds worth of Work to be done to  
her; and when she is ordered to the Seas  
the Work is to do: And so do they  
work over one another's Backs, and  
hinder each other; which is a loss to the  
King, and a great Cause why Ships are  
so long Equipping, there being a mystery  
under it, which ought to be discovered.

Now all this while here is a Latitude  
left by this method, as I spake of, for the  
Iron Work, Timber, and Materials, &c.  
to be spent on a beloved or a favourite  
Ship, as they call it, and placed to the  
account of the other, who all this while  
lies Rotting and Decaying shamefully,  
for want of careful Preventions.

As for the Preservation of Ships after built, I account it the most necessary and needful Charges, and that ought most especially to be regarded, before the building of new Ships; for every Hundred Pounds laid out well for Preservation of Ships, is of more Service, than two Thousand Pounds laid out upon new Ships, let it be managed never so well: For I would fain know wherein the Wisdom and Prudence of that Man lies, who, having two Houses required for his use, of equal bigness, they being in Decay, and that every Hundred Pound laid out upon Repairs of one of them, turns to more account for his Profit, and readier for his Use, than five Hundred Pound laid upon a new one: And the other being lately repaired, or built, and wants only some small Expences to be upon it, to preserve it for his use, at all times of need to be ready; and every Hundred Pound he layeth out

upon

76 **Naval Speculations**, Or,  
upon that's Preservation, turns to his ac-  
count of profit more than two Thou-  
sand Pound laid out towards building a  
new one; and yet notwithstanding he will  
neglect the other, and build it new; for  
that his chief Steward, or else his Master-  
workman, has blinded his cheif Steward,  
who have large private Interests in the  
building of new, or else their Interest  
runs like two Lines from the Circumfe-  
rence to the Centre. I cannot forbear  
to be thus plain, that Navy Ships, I  
fear, have been too much neglected in  
their Preservation, and that Builders  
have not been without their blame; and  
that no small Intrigues are and have been  
carried on for the Building and Repair-  
ing of Ships, I am well satisfied thereof.

I confess this matter, as many Particu-  
lars of great Weight, and also that of  
the Purveyors, and Contractors, may re-  
quire a long discourse, and would be  
matter of Discovery of divers Mysteries;  
but

but because I have an Eye to my former Promise, not to expose the Affair, nor any Person therein, to the view of the World ; and that I do not affect the Title of an Informer ; but so as to cast a willing Mite into the Treasury, for the support of the Order and Government of the *Navy*, whereby it might be easier maintained (as to the vast Expence, and immence charge thereof) by the Nation, and serve the right Ends : *viz.* To preserve and maintain the Honour and Wealth of the Nation ; and by a Progression to encrease it, that they be not obnoxious to the Insulting, or Conquest, of their Neighbours, who design no less ; which is my chief End herein.

Now as for the Builders, Assistants, Master-Caulkers, Master-Joyner, Master-Mast-Maker, Master-Boat-BUILDER, Master-House-Carpenter, Ship-Wrights, Labourers, Sawyers. Tool-Grinders and Setters, and all the Artificers and Workmen,

78 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
men belonging to the respective Works,  
being under the Inspection of the Master-  
Builder, and Assistants, having not time  
to descend into small particulars, I will  
say no more here: But that the Master  
Carver, Anchor-Smith, Lock-Smith Pain-  
ter, and Purveyor of small Stores, or  
petty Emptions, they being all Con-  
tractors, I will say only as I before said of  
the right Appropriations of the Stores,  
and true Qualifications therof, that the  
Door be shut against any Evils that may  
come in by Fraud, or wrong Applicati-  
on of the said Works: which brings me,

*Fourthly*, to the Storekeeper's-Office,  
who is also of great Trust in his Receipts  
and Issues of all manner of Stores; who  
gives also Security for his Office, to pass  
his Accompts, Debtor and Creditor, with  
the Clerk-Surveyor, or with the Clerk of  
the Comptroll, which was an Officer  
settled of late years in every Yard, and a  
Head-Office thereof at *London*. And  
therein

therein was found out an Employment for a Commissioner of the Board; but that being onely a Branch of the Surveyor's Office, it never appeared to me of any use; but as hiring Men to mud the Water, so it hath been for some time since discontinued at the Yards: But the Office aloft is continued; where many Lines and Columns of Stores are made, for the balancing of Store-keepers Ac-compts: Yet that heretofore, and now, ought to be kept by the Clerk-Surveyor; but he finding ease thereby, may be silent. The Storekeeper, I say, with his Clerks and Subs, are to be minded, that he, nor any of his Instruments, shall be negligent in their attendance, but be ready to make Dispatch in their Issues, and not to be morose and short in their Answers, and prolong the time in effecting the Import of the Notes and Bills, that are signed to them by the Master-Builder, his Assistant, Master-Attendant, or Clerk of  
the

80 **Naval Speculations** : Or,  
the Survey, (for they all sign upon them  
respectively;) but that Boatswains, Car-  
penters, &c. must give long attendance  
for Dispatches, protracted for Lucre, ma-  
ny great Evils ensuing to the Affair there-  
by : Yet the Commissioner is commonly  
to and again ; and if he be sharp sighted,  
and willing to give himself the trouble,  
will apply a seasonable Spur, as well to  
them as all other slow Proceedings ;  
which is a great branch of his Office, to  
quicken, spur, and enliven the whole  
Affair within his Jurisdiction.

*Fifthly*, The Master-Attendant is an  
Officer of Busines, and Trust, for trans-  
porting of Ships in and out of the Har-  
bor, taking care for laying the Ships  
(all that enter the Port) at safe more-  
nings; that they damnifie not each other, do  
not break loose, &c. to take care to un-  
store, ungun, unrigg, and unballast  
them ; and bring them to and from the  
Dock, and heave them into the Dock,  
and

and out, provide Ballast, and all manner of Rigging, Cables, Sails, Anchors, and Cordage for them; suitable and answerable Stores for their Voyage: And on their Returns again to survey the Boatswain's remains, and take care for the laying them up for Preservation; the Clerk of the Survey being the Surveyor's Instrument, for Surveying the Stores of as well the Boatswain's Stores, under the Master-Attendant his Oversight, as also the Carpenters Store's, under the Master-BUILDER'S Oversight, passing their Accounts by the Vouches signed by the Builders, and Master-Attendant, of their Remains; and of the Captains their expence at Sea. The Master-Attendant also commands and directs the Labourers of the Yard; orders the cutting and making of Rigging at the Rigging House, appoints and directs the Ordinary; that is, the Boatswain's Servants, and extraordinary Men, born on the Ships in

82 **Naval Speculations**: Or,

Harbour; and takes notice of the respective Persons under his Command, of their either Neglect or Attending their Duty: All which he performs by his Substitutes, as by the Boatswains of Ships for the Ordinary, and when he detaches Labourers to work on Float, to clear Ships, heave Ballast, &c. And for the Labourers, the Boatswain of the Yard, although warranted, works them; yet subordinate to the Master-Attendant: The said Yard-Boatswain also directs the Teams of draught Horses, for drawing of Timber, &c. and heaving it out of Vessels by Labourers; also all manner of Stores received in, and cleaning of the Docks and Yards, providing of Shovels, Pickaxes, Hand-spikes, Ropes, Blocks, and all Instruments to doe the said work, and for heaving in and out Ships at the Docks. The Master-Attendant also appoints Pilots for carrying Ships in and out of the Harbour, and signs their Bills for

for it; as also the Huyes and Lighters, hired for carrying of Balaft. His business is of large Extent, and he ought to be a Man of good Knowledge, as of the Practice of the Navy, so of the Shoals and Tides of the Harbour; a Man of Care, Industry, Courage, Temperance, Justice, and Honesty; and well encouraged and supported in his Commands: So ought also the Checque, Builders, &c. in their respective Stations, appointed by the Commissioner of the Place, and also of the Board: Whereas if he be void of Knowledge, great Damages will ensue to Ships, in their Transportations and Ridings, he not being acquainted with the Shoals; and setting of Tides, and the lyings of Moreings in the Harbour: the elder Boatswain indeed may be his Guide, who officiates under him; but they will be apt to be cross, and think they are wronged of their Birthright, whose opinion I cannot condemn: Neither can I

84 **Naval Speculations** : Or,  
think it either just, expedient, or safe,  
to the King's Service; to put a stranger  
who never served, nor knew the Practice  
of the *Navy*, over the heads of able  
Men, who have spent their whole  
days in the said Service ; and therefore  
I cannot forbear to say here, as I have  
else where said in the Preferment and  
Encouragement of Clerks : For it is hard  
measure, that a Man shall be neglected,  
and put by Preferment, not for any Ina-  
bility, but that he hath not made Inter-  
est enough, or is not willing to down  
with his dust ; although he has served his  
Life long, and is a Man of much Expe-  
rience and Merit ; which sort of Men, as  
I have elsewhere said, are Modest, and  
backward to offer to buy (as I there  
called it) their Fetters.

One thing I have forgotten to hint be-  
fore, the which perhaps may not be un-  
fitly applyed here, it being an Observa-  
tion I have made in the *Navy*, viz. That

it

it is the Opinion and Practcie of many, not the best Officers, that they will bid the highest rate for Advancement ; concluding, that when attained they are arrived into the Land of *Canaan*, (*viz.* Rest,) but not of Promise to them ; but was promised, perhaps, to more meritorious Men, but that their Money and Interest came short : yet of Rest they are resolved to make it ; concluding, that their Profits being encreased, their **Cares** should be abated : And therefore they do resolve to live quiet and secure, and act that part that shall procure them that ; and let the World go round, if their Policy fail not, their sleep shall be sound ; and let the inferiour be industrious and full of cares : But I think it is altogether unsuitable to the Mind of a good Man or Christian, a good Officer, or Leigeman to his King and Country ; and also should think, the higher his Office the more his **Cares** ; not only in the sight of

86 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
good Men, but required by God: For  
the Sword of Justice was never designed  
by him to be put into the hands of one  
who will sheath it, and play the Truant:  
Wherefore I am well assured, that it  
would contribute to the Welfare and  
Promotion of the Glory and Strength of  
the Navy and Nation, and be most a-  
greeable to the Dictates of God Almigh-  
ty to let Justice be plentifully administred  
through the whole Series of the Affair;  
that the least Member thereof may gather  
enough for the Expence of his Family, of  
that Heavenly Dew or Manna, which is  
the Emanations of Heaven upon Man;  
and he that hath Justice in him, hath  
(although but weakly) one of the Cardi-  
nal Attributes of God. I will end this  
Paragraph with a Declamation against  
the Injustice of some years past; To dis-  
pose of the places of the biggest Ships, un-  
to young uncapable Men, that never  
served in the Affair; nor, I beleive, ne-

ver

ver will, when need requires it; but, like the Drones in the Bee-hive, live at home, and spend the Honey, and the publick Service serve only them: Nay, one Employment hath not been enough, but two or three of the best; I mean, of the middle Stations of the *Navy*; I say, two or more have been one Man's share, and deserving Men, of good and approved Abilities, and of long standing and service, have been put by, or onely continued in their low and beginning Station; and by consequence must veil to Children and Pupils in Busines, if they will have Bread.

But I return to my Master-Attendant, who, if he be not a Man of Novel Inventions, and break the Practices of the Yards, and do not be put upon through his Weakness, and Ignorance of his Authority, and Right of Command, by any malevolent and turbulent Boatswain, that acts under him; and who tells him,

G 4                   that

that it is not the Duty of the Ordinary to heave out the Provisions left in the Ships; for they are not the King's, but the Purser's; and so cause the Wheels to stand still, and the Docks to stand void, as I have before hinted, and so damnifie the Service considerably, and also the Officer: I say, he ought also to have Courage, and stand on his Right of Commanding Men out of Ships, to clear others, as the necessity of the Service requires, and the Commissioner of the place directs; although there be a Captain that denies his Men to do it, except they be paid for it; I say he ought to bid hard up to the positive Point, and there to leave it, and the Damages thereof, at the Captains or Commissioners Doors. So that you see, that the Vertue of Courage must not be wanting; for if it be, he cannot perform the Service well. Also Justice and Honesty he ought to be well stockt with; otherwise he will be tempted

tempted to connive with the Boatswain's Embezlements, and sign over large Expences; and he may be tempted to sign over large Balaft Bills: and again, he may abuse and hinder many other good Officers in their Servants, under the pretence of Uprightness to the King's Business; and pour out his Favours upon his Creatures: I say, this Officer ought to be endued with very good Vertues, or else he may, instead of doing much Service to the Affair, do very much Differ-  
vice, &c.

Sixthly, The Clerk of the Survey is an Officer presented thereto by the Surveyor, but warranted by the *Admiralty*, who keeps the Account of all Stores received into the Yard by the Storekeeper; surveys them at their Entrance, and is one that signs the Bills for them to the *Navy-board*. He surveys all Remains of Stores at the Returns of Ships from Sea; of Boatswains, and Carpenters, and passes

90 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
passes their Accompts: He signs Vouches to Storekeepers for Sea Stores, with the Master-Attendant, and Builders, with whom, and the Storkepers, his Busines interferes very much; and his Affair or Duty being in a less compass, and without the reach of much Disquiet, or Trouble, he may be the more happy, if he be a Man of that Temper to use it so: His business being retired, and within himself, his Temptations to Dishonesty are the more and more recluse and private, having opportunities thereby to cause him to fall, and break his Trust; and therfore had need be a Man endowed with honest and just Principles: Also he ought to be of good knowledge in the Nature of Stores, and a ready Clerk for Accompts. Mostly the Surveyor takes great care to present a fit and experienced Clerk, otherwise it would distract his Office aloft; and commonly he presents one that has served before in some under Clerk-

Clerkship of the same Office ; which is a sort of Justiee I wish were practised throughout the *Navy* : I am sure he is the more safe and quiet in his business ; and no doubt the better Dispatches are made therein by People apt and known to the business ; without Tricks, Projects or new Fangles for Lucre. I know no Office in the *Navy* of that Quantity, that transacts their Busines with Dispatch, with so little Notice or Perturbation, and are so very sedate and quiet ; undoubtedly the more happy themselves, and those that negotiate with them, and the Services of the King in that Affair go or at least run, in the streight Chanel, without Meanders and Turnings.

*Seventhly*, The Rope-house, *viz.* the Clerk and Master-Rope-maker are the Guides of that Affair, only the Master-Attendant sometimes may inspect or order some sizes of Ropes and Cordage, Cabels, &c. to be made, as they are needed ;

92 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
needed; and also sometimes his Orders  
are necessary to detatch some of the  
Ordinary, or Labourers, to twist the  
great Cables. Indeed this Office is very  
distinct from interfering with any of the  
rest of the Offices; only the Master-At-  
tendant may detatch some of their Hands,  
to help to heave a Ship in or out of the  
Dock, or the Master-Builder, on some  
emergencies; the nature of their Work  
being such, that they do their work often  
by Task, and so commonly do their  
day's Work by two or three a Clock:  
The Clerk hereof has a fine, quiet Busi-  
ness, and very separate, if he be a good  
spirited Man, so to use it, and to be just  
towards the King and the Men; for he  
keeps the Prick and Checque over them,  
and makes the quarterly Books up for  
their pay, and the Clerk of the Checque  
meddles not with them.

But there is an Affair dependant, or  
appendant rather; yet it is separate: For  
there

there is a Rope-maker that makes up all the old and half worn Cables, and Cordage, opens the Strands and knits them, and makes them up into Cordage again ; and it is called twice laid stuff, and serves for running Ropes, Port Ropes, Stage Ropes, and small Cordage. At *Portsmouth* it is prettily managed ; the said Ropemaker contracts for so much by the Hundred, and has Tarr allowed him ; the Storekeeper delivers it to him, and receives it from him, and certifies his Quantities ; and the King's Rope-maker is excluded, in that particular Yard only, from having any Cognisance therein ; who is the most able Man to inspect it, and oversee the Work, that it be done as it ought ; and no more made, or certified to be made, than is needful ; or that too much Tarr be not put into it : But it is there finely carried ; so that there is more made thereof in that Yard in a Year, than is in all the Yards beside put together :

94 **Naval Speculations:** Or,  
together : It amounts to about four Hundred Pounds, some Years, bare Workmanship, which the Man doth himself, and two or three Servants, Boys, for the most part. I accuse not, but it is worth Observation, which is all I have to say of the Rope-house.

*Eightly,* All the other Offices, viz. Mast-maker, Boat-builder, Joyner, &c. are under the Builder's Orders : But the Clerk of the Checque, if he be a fit Man, will espie some Works doing in the Joinery, Painters, and Carvers Offices, for the Beautifying of Mens Houses with Cabinets, fine Utensils of divers kinds, Costly, and more to the King ; for what is done there, costeth the King twice as much Time and Materials as it is worth. In this nature divers Offices are corrupted : I fall not on particulars, but great Summs may be spent that kind of way ; for Work and Materials may serve to adorn Mens Houses, or build them about the Town :

These

These things are too obvious, and may not, ~~may~~, must not be denied, and all by connivance ; and yet at the same time Thrift pretended, and scruple to let a Warrant-Officer on board have a small Lock for his Cabin, or Store-Room : I say, these all are under the Builder's Direction, but he is blinded, and cannot see it ; but the Clerk of the Checque ought to visit them, and checque them ; as also the Labourers, that are employed by greedy and purloining Officers of the Yard, if they set them to work in their Gardens, do all the small and great Offices about their Housles, run abroad any where about Errands, and absent themselves at any rate, under the pretence of being an Officer's Man, or Boat-man ; the King may loose no small matter Yearly, I say, if a Clerk of the Checque be not a Man every way well appointed to his Busines.

And

And thus I will conclude with the Yards; that they are all warranted from the *Admiralty*, and are under the Command, and definite Orders of the Commissioner of the Place: But the Carver, Painter, Smiths, &c. I reckon not of the Yards, but are dependants; and therefore I will say a few things to them here; That is thus:

That Carved Work on the Ships is come, with the Painting them, to be a good part of the Charge of the Ship, and is not of any intrinsick value, in any manner of Proportion to the cost, contributing to the good of the Service, or Strength of the Nation; but, on the contrary, serves to rot the Ships, entangle them when two Ships happen to come together, and most dangerous of burning the Ships when Fire-Ships shall board them: For it is generally the Carved Work that takes Fire first, and it runs on it like Wild-Fire, by means of the Oyl of

the

the Paint; and many times the Carved Work is as rotten as Touch-wood, and will take fire even with a Wad, or Coal of a Cartridg, or Tobacco. You may moderately compute the charge of Carving and Painting, that is needless unto the Navy, at the twentieth part of the charge of the Hulls of the Ships of the Navy; which now may be thought considerable, when the Navy is swollen to so great a bulk, and a certain necessity to have it greater: For our Neighbours put so fair for the Dominion of the Seas, that I doubt, before the Naval Force of Christendom will be settled in a General Peace, this Kingdom may happen to be put to many hard Tugs, to maintain their Right; and the Wealth of the Nation, together with the Bloud thereof, will be greatly exhausted; and therefore for the saving the one from profuse Expences, and preserving the Breeding and Maintaining the other, is of no small consideration at this

H time;

98 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
time; and the more timely it be consider-  
ed, we may with the more facility effect  
our desires. As for the former, I com-  
pute the unnecessary charge thereof, by  
the thirty last Ships, · by the Parliament's  
**Order** built, if the Money they gave for  
it (as I think) was six hundred thousand  
Pounds, and the King spent two hundred  
thousand more, in all eight hundred thou-  
sand Pounds; (admit that that were the  
cost;) I compute the Carving and Painting  
at the Fortieth part of the whole, allow-  
ing the Hulls to be but the half of that cost,  
which is Four hundred thousand Pounds:  
Then the Carving and Painting is the  
Twentieth part thereof, which is Twenty  
thousand Pounds profuse Expences, out  
of Four hundred thousand Pounds spent  
on Hulls; which Twenty thousand Pounds  
might be saved, and with more safety and  
security to the Ships from Fire, and less  
rotting their Work.

The

The Arguments against this Thrift are usually the Splendor of the Navy, and the Discouragement of Arts. The Arguments being weak, the Confutation may be short; which is thus: The true Splendor and Glory of the Navy lies in the good Government thereof, the Easiness of the Expence to the Nation, and the Atchievement of great Actions, preserving the Honour, Safety, and Wealth of the Nation; and not in Adorning of our Ships: And for the Arts of Painting and Carving, it is not worthy to be named, in comparison with the Cost of the Affair. The means of this Profusenesſ hath been created by Interest of Builders at the Navy Board, every one endeavouring to excel each other in the Beautifying their own Works, thereby to bring them and themselves into the greater Esteem; and that they might be so with the Commanders, they have not stay'd there, but endeavoured also to exceed each other in the contriving the Accom-

100 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
modations for them, to that degree, that  
the other Officers, and the Seamen, are  
pent up into too little and small Accom-  
modations and Conveniences; and the  
Warlike Uses and Intentions thereof neg-  
lected, and much impeded; the which I  
shall more plainly make appear, when I  
am come on Board.

Yet before I leave the Yard, I must take  
leave of the Porter, who hath shut the  
Gate upon me; who is an Officer also,  
and warranted from the Admiralty: His  
Office is to open and shut the Gates, and  
either himself or helper to be always at his  
Post, to take notice of all that enter or  
go out thereof all the day time; and to  
see the Watch set, giving them such In-  
structions as he shall receive from the Com-  
missioners: If he be a temperate, careful,  
and honest man, he may prevent much  
Evils, which otherwise will slide without  
notice; by giving the Commissioner,  
Checque, Builder, and all the other chief  
Officers,

Officers, needfull notice, and true information of what they shall see, or they enquire after ; and tell them I am gone on Board, and dare not lie a night with my Wife, although come lately from Sea.

*Ninthly,* The Officers of the Ordinary are, a Purser, a Boatswain, a Gunner, a Carpenter, and a Cook, of each Ship ; with Servants according as the Rate of the Ship will bear.

The Boatswain is ordered by the Master-Attendant to come where he has ordered a Jack to be hoisted on the Ensign-Staff, and there to work the Servants and extraordinary Men, till about two a Clock, except the Emergencies be the greater ; and after the Work to repair on Board their respective Ships, and to clean them as is needful :

The Carpenter to go with his Servant to work on Float where the Master-BUILDER, or Assistant shall direct, in such like order as the Boatswain.

The Purser and Gunner, in their turns, look to the Ships all the Day time, and in the Night take their Watches in their turns, with either Boatswain or Carpenter.

The Purser takes care for Victualing them every Month, from the Shoar, and carries the Warrants signed by the Checque, and Master-Attendant, after every Monthly Muster made by the Clerk of the Checque, in the presence of the Commissioner; and takes notice of every absence by Discharge, Death, or Runaway: And to the Checque grounds his Warrants for the ensuing Month's Victuals, which the Purser, when effected, signs to the Victualler, and he provides them Beer, Firing, Candle, and Necessaries, *viz.* Canns, Platters, &c. and accounts with the Victualler for the Provisions, and the necessary Money which is allowed, *viz.* One Shilling *per Man, per Month.*

The

The Gunner goes in Guard Boat, in his turn with the other Gunners, one every Night in Summer, and two in the Winter, to row and drive up and down the Harbour in Gaurd Boats, kept on purpose, and Men detatched from the Ships, as the Commissioner directs, or committed to some Captain riding there. They are to serve as Espials, or Watches on Float, to take notice what Boats pass, and to examine what they do abroad after the Watch is set; which is by a Gun Fired, about the Twilight, by the said Captain directed for the oversight of the Watch in the Harbour: The said Boat is to go about the Ships, and take notice if there be a Watch kept on Board, and one walking upon the Deck all Night; and where they find any Neglect, or any Disorder, by keeping of Fire, or Candle light all the Night, or Drunkennes, to hale them; and, if not answered, to put on Board, and inform themseves of

104 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
the Disorder: They also are to see what  
Boats pass untimely; if purloining of  
Stores, stealing of Customes, &c. of all  
which Misbehaviours he is to acquaint the  
said Captain, and he the Commissioner,  
if worth the taking notice of; and some-  
times the Commissioner visits them in the  
Night for the same purpose; and oftner  
the Cheque, to observe their Atten-  
dance.

And here I call to remembrance, for some  
time since, the rigid and strict Hands car-  
ried over these poor People, by a colour-  
able Pretence of Vigilance in the King's  
Business, and exacted constant Duty from  
them, both by Day and Night, glorying in  
the act of catching any one on Shoar, to  
visit his Family, and suspending many,  
to their great Impoverishment to sollicit  
their Restoration; contrary to every  
Officer's Instructions, as their Duty gi-  
ven them from the Navy Board; of which  
I will say more, when I come to Sea. But

I apprehend these Proceedings tended not to the Service of the King ; for two Officers on Board in the Night, and one in the Day, is as much as can in any wise be needful, considering the Hardships Men are put to : But when come Home, and near their own Doors, from the Fatigue of the Seas and Wars ; and not to be suffered to converse with their Wives and Families, but even as an Adulterer steals to an Harlot ; which Severities acted by them, exceed the Inhumanity of the *Ægyptian* Task-masters, being beside and beyond the Officers Instructions signed by them, a preposterous Proceeding, where good Method and Order is required : But it served the Trick of their Design, to put a Mask before their Supériours Eyes, when they came before them to acquaint them of the needful, made this their Cardinal Care, to exact a both needless, inhumane, and undue Duty ; to the great Discomfort and Undoing of many

106 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
ny poor, needy, but good Officers: In-  
somuch that many died with Grief and  
**Colds**, and divers lived miserable with  
Sickness and Poverty; and sometime an  
act of Grace was past: But all this, I  
reckon, sprang from the same Root, as  
the Designs were practised for; one time  
fiercely to vex and disturb the Dissenters,  
and then to promulgate Liberty by Grace;  
and all the while to bring an *Odium*  
upon the Church: So this to unhinge and  
and disorder the well settled Government  
and Tranquillity of the *Navy*; the which  
being disjointed, it would, nay, must  
have expected to have fallen into the  
Hands, and under the sole Management  
of a few; who, beside their Policy in  
twisting Designs to enrich themselves,  
knew as little of the true Government of  
the Affairs of the *Navy*, as they intended  
it should serve for the Safety, Honour,  
and Welfare of the Nation. And so I  
will leave these miserable, poor Officers,  
wishing

wishing themselves Dead, or some way delivered from their Captivity by a Voyage to Sea, where perhaps they might meet with a Discharge from all by Death, Life being become miserable, and Death more desirable to them ; and so cursing their Fates to be bred up to an Employment, that hath, in their mature Years, failed to obtain for them, in a reasonable degree, Sustinance for themselves and Families they have contracted about them ; their fates falling so heavy upon them, by the Machinations and Devices of designing Men, finding the Juncto suitable both in the Principals and the Adherents, to alter and misgovern such an Affair, and ruine them, together with the loss of the Glory, Honour, and Safety of the Nation, and to the Acquirement of Honour, and Riches to the designing Prosecutors, or rather Persecutors.

**I V.** *Of the Victualling Office.*

1. *A Comptroller.*
2. *A Surveyor.*
3. *A Treasurer.*
4. *An Out-rider, or Riding Surveyor.*
5. *Clerk Accomptant of Receipts, Issues, and Returns; a Clerk of the Actions of the Board; a Clerk of the Cutting-house; a Clerk of the Cooperidge, Cutters, Salters, Boat-takers, and Wharfingers.*
6. *Agents and Store-keepers abroad.*

**T**HE Commissioners for Victualling, is a new Office; heretofore it hath been managed by Contractors; as Mr. Crane in King Charles the First's time; but in the late time of Exile, it had divers Contractors;

tractors ; as, one or more at every Port, and divers aloft ; which Practice I cannot blame : For that Affair being of that nature, which does admit such sort of Profits, which is the only Support and Gain of the same, without it they could not do it at such rates as they have contracted for ; that is, by buying, and encouraging the Purfers to buy, of the Officers and Mariners, their Salt Provisions ; (for any one may judge, that those Provisions are neither wholsome nor toothsome ; ) because the Captain and all the Officers and Mariners that have Money, and opportunity, will, at every Port they come at, get some fresh Eatables, of Flesh, Fish, or Garden Fruits, &c. the Purfer buying the Salt of them, and letting them have Money at all times to refresh themselves therewith ; the which the Purfer does commonly do for all the Ship's Company, when he comes to a Port where the price of fresh Provisions will bear it, having Money

110 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Money by him always for that purpose,  
and is a piece of very good Service; for  
it makes the Provisions last out longer,  
that the Ships may keep the Seas longer;  
and also refreshes the Men, who are o-  
therwise made sickly, and die for want of  
Change of Diet; having no Money a  
long while.

And although the Commissioners for  
the King may slight it, yet the Contract-  
ors never looked upon it otherwise than  
as the profitablest Plant in that Garden:  
Nay, it is many times a Profit to the Pur-  
ser, for his Encouragement; for without  
that, I think, it is in vain to expect Men  
should take upon them to serve the Pub-  
lick; and our Saviour himself saith, *Men  
go not to War on their own cost*: And he  
that pretends to serve the Publick, with-  
out expectation of some(though smaller)  
Honour and Riches, at least, I believe  
him not: Nay, a prospect of a Compen-  
sation answerable to his Hazard and Trou-  
ble;

ble; or, that it may provide him with Competency of Livelihood, even comparable to those of his Brethren, trained up with like Education, and disposed either to the Law, Physick, Merchandize, Shop-keeping, Farming, or Manufacturing at home, &c. Yet often, and very often, it proves nothing so; and most often their Brethren, that spend their Time and Tallent at home, have such a gradual Encreasement of their Wealth, that, after a term of years be past, they are out of the Danger of Impoverishment: Whereas their publick-serving Brother is, after the said Term, even then as hard at Cringing and Creeping to his Superior, as ever, that he might continue or increase his Maintenance, for the Support of his Family he hath gotten; or else is disappointed by the loss of Friends, who are either dead before him, or put beside the Cushion; and having fallen upon the Lot of bad Voyages; Mischances, croſs, and ruining

112 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
ruining Circumstances, which have left  
him both Moneyless, and Friendless, and  
full of Family, and Years, and so with  
**Grief** makes his *Exit*; and leaves his de-  
layed and protracted Accounts to the  
management of the Unmerciful and Un-  
compassionate, who too commonly make  
**a Prey** of the Remains, if any be; and  
leave the Widow and Family as ignorant  
of the Proceedings, as without Substance;  
and rendring the Security for them within  
their Reach, to be shorn by them: I  
say, this is the fate of too many that of  
late years have served the Publick in that  
Affair; their utter Ejection having been  
projected long since, and the Efforts to-  
wards the bringing it about having gone  
on in a continued Progression, seemingly,  
now to be ripe for its effecting: Having,  
I say, so altered the Methods and Ma-  
nagement of that Office, That there ap-  
pears in it but few Persons truly qualified  
for it; for often those who are put into  
it,

it, are Recommended by those whose designs are for the Extirpation of them, or at least to continue the Shadow thereof a while longer; yet it shall be only the Shadow, and not the Nature and Substance: But the Methods and Practice of the Office is so altered, and subjected to the Superior, that the Service hath nought but the Footsteps of that Office left; nor can Benefit or Safety thereby in any Measure be expected to the King, the Service, or the Men; but the Affair turned under a Monopolized and Despotical Power. But the contriving the management of the Victualling by Commissioners, being a Principal Wheel to turn about the chief Projection thereof, what relates to their Management and late Proceedings therein, I am now to prosecute. And,

*First*, Five Commissioners are made to carry on this Affair, with large Sallaries, and Allowances of Dwellings, and of what they think good for their Families in

I the

114 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
the Offices; it being at the King's Charge.  
These Men, I say, are Grandated at a  
Board; to hear and receive all Contractors  
Propositions, and pass their Bills for  
Payment on their Cashier; inspect the  
Proceedings of their several Offices; gi-  
ving them Warrants and Orders for their  
Proceedings. Now if these Commissio-  
ners be unskilled in this Affair, *viz.* in the  
Nature of the Flesh, its Seasons for buy-  
ing; (for very much skill is required for  
the knowledge in the buying, not only  
for the quantity, but the quality; for the  
Cattel may be bought in the Market after  
great Drift, and Pineing, only to sweep  
the Market, because of lower Prices,  
when the loss thereby will return ten-fold;  
beside the disappointment of the Service,  
and the destroying of the Lives and  
Heaths of the Men; filling the Service  
full of Confusion and Discontent, and  
extreamly weakening the Affair; and in  
fine, making it more chargeable to the  
King;

King ; it having been a well-ordered and well-governed Affair, by the best Management imaginable.) Now, I say, if the said Principals have no Insight nor Knowledge in the Affair, nor in the laudable Customs of *Maritime Proceedings* in the *Naval Affairs*, (I mean the King's;) What may not the Officers under them put on them? What Methods shall hold them? Or, what Steadiness can there be in their constant Proceedings, to be just to all that negotiate with them, and all the whole Affair to be at a certainty of good and wholesome Provisions, provided at the best Seasons, and at the best Rates? I say, How can this consist with Reason, if it may be (not to say it must be) committed to the Subs ; and only for form have the Approbation of the Principals ; especially if the Subs shall be Novices too, and not Men qualified for business ?

I could say a very great deal more in this Affair; but the sight thereof hath filled my Mind with so much matter of Discourse, that I am confounded, like the Affair; and know not how to speak to it, so as to take a view of each part: Into which Method, if I proceed, I should be too tedious in this Work; which I meant but as an Essay, for a Trial, hoping some abler Pen will erect a Mansion upon my Cottage; and therefore I shall only add hereto, That when Contractors had it, they were forced to look sharply to the Affair, and to employ able and knowing People; and to let nothing of any private Interest creep into the Affair; and to be sure to buy good Provisions, and to have them well preserved: And if any Humorous Commanders refused, or abused the same; then their Instruments gave a good account thereof, and the same was turned to the King's Damage; for if there were any other Proceed-

ceedings in the Receipts, Returning, or Expending the same, than what was the Ancient Customs of the *Navy*, and according to the Prescriptions in their Contracts; so that all things went on according to the Ancient Methods of the *Navy*, and Customs in *Maritime Affairs*; and seldom was there found any great Defects in Provisions, nor any disorderly Returns, Refusings, or Abuses: If any were to their damage, they would be sure to acquaint the *Navy-Board* for Redress, and cause the Offenders to be questioned; and that deterred them from offering it, knowing that it would not pass without notice; and the Contractors also, knowing that if the Affair were not carefully and diligently managed, it would turn to their great Damages; and if the Fleets were disappointed, it would be their breach of Covenants, and fall heavy upon them: For they could not make such Interest as to have it expiated at an easie rate, nor with

colourable Pretences; so that both they, and all their Friends engaged with them, and their whole Value, lay liable to the King for satisfaction; nor could any Sale of Estate, or Gift, made during the time they were Accomptants to the King, defend it from the King's Seisures: So that, I say, there must be no room for insufficient, careless, or negligent Instruments, by private Interest; nor for any Wrongs done to any of the King's Servants, negotiating with them, without making Reparation. Therefore, that the so great Affair might be managed, that there might be computed the certain Costs the King shall be at, for the Maintainance of his *Maritime Strength*, and not fall under the power of any Interest, to make it cost more; and with surety and safety performed, asby the Contractors is made appear to be, is a Condition most desirable, and requisite, for the Navy to be constituted and settled in.

But

But if it does appear to the Wise and Knowing, That it would better answer the ends aforesaid to be managed by the King's Commissioners; then to that end I will make a few steps that way, and premise, as in the Heads aforesaid; That it does consist of a *Comptroller*, a *Surveyor*, and a *Treasurer*, all resident at the Office; except an Emergency calls them to the Ports; to avoid which, there is needful to be an *Out-rider*, or *Riding Surveyor*, whose business should be to visit the Ports and *Fleet*, and to enliven and quicken the Affair, and spur all the remote Instruments to the diligent and careful performance of their Duties, in their respective Stations; and to mark all Errors, and to give account thereof to the Board for Redress; That Provisions be not damnified by tossing them to and from Ships, and suffer great Damages, and Demurrages of the Vessels, by leaving them unspent, whiles they may be preserved; and that

the Instruments do not make slow and slack Dispatches, under small pretences for Lucre, and study chiefly their own Profits; or to damnifie any one that negotiates with them, by undue and unpracticable Proceedings, and Delays of Payments; the which would bring a general Disreputation on the Action, and cause it to be the more chargeable to the *King*; and is also extremely hurtful to the Affair.

Wherefore,

*Fifthly*, The Clerk-Accomptant of Receipts, Issues, and Returns, should be a Man of great Abilities, Honesty, and Justice, rightly to state all Matters to the Board, and to pass all the Accompts under the Approbation and Allowance of the *Navy-Board*; that they might be engrossed into the *Treasurer* of the *Navy* his Ledger, and exhibited to the *Exchequer*; so that Estimates might be made upon all Exigencies that may offer.

The

The Clerk of the Actions of the Board, ought to be a good Clerk and Secretary, to dispatch good Instructions and Reprimands, in proper Terms ; and to preserve all Precedents and Orders in good Method for Review, when needful.

The Clerk of the Cutting-house, ought to be sworn to do his Office justly, and faithfully ; as also to see that his Packers under him be Sworn, and do execute their Office truly and justly ; to mark the Contents faithfully and right.

The Clerk of the Cooperidge also to be Sworn to see the due Gages put on all Casks for Beer.

The Salters under the Clerk of the Cutting-house his Inspection, ought to do their Office carefully, and painfully ; and the Boat-takers, and Wharfingers to be diligent to provide for the Transport of the Provisions where ordered, and to give them quick Dispatches ; also to receive the Returns carefully, and to preserve and

122 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
and return them to the respective  
Offices, where they are to be reposi-  
ted for Repairs, Re-package, Dispo-  
sal and Ordering; and not to let Vessels  
lie by with Demurrage, for want of De-  
liverance, to the Loss and Discomfort of  
the Owners, and hinderance of the Af-  
fair: In which there is no small matter to  
be considered, in the doing Right and  
Justice to the Brewers, Bakers, and to  
the Cheese-mongers, &c. according to  
their Contracts; and to the Owners of  
Vessels, for their Fraights, and Demur-  
rages. In which, if it be not rightly and  
exactly performed, the *Commissioners* can-  
not easily do Justice, and judge aright be-  
tween the *King* and them, according to  
their Contracts and Agreements for A-  
batements, or Allowances, &c. It is a  
great point of the *Surveyor's* Business, to  
judge and determine of Defects by him-  
self, or to choose two Men Sworn there-  
to; as their Contracts respectively shall  
intimate and direct.

*Sixtly,*

Sixtly, The Agents and Store-keepers abroad ought to do all the same thing that is done at *London*; but by the Orders and Directions of the Commissioners at the General Office, for Victualling at *London*, the said Agent buys Provisions, contracting for the same to be served in as the Season offers, and as he hath Directions from the Commissioners, with whom he keeps a continual Correspond, and without whom, or their Directions, he can do nothing of moment: He draws his Bills for Money on them, and receives Money from some Receivers of Taxes, as the Commissioners aloft can get Assignments from the Treasurer of the *Navy*, and he from the Lords of the Treasury, on parts of the Revenue: He indents with the Purfers, he superinspects the whole Affair of Victualling at that Port, if there be no Commissioner or Riding Surveyor at the place, which in all times of Action extraordinary there should be;

be; and whensoever any one is there, then he supersedes him. The said Agent is a person placed in great Trust; for he has the Oversight of all, even as a Commissioner aloft has; and indeed his Office imports all that theirs does, *viz.* For the prudent managing and quick dispatching; only it lies not at his door to take care that there be sufficient Provisions at the Port, or Monies to supply all Emergencies; he is only to give the Commissioners constant and timely Account, and to do and see put in Execution all the Commissioners Orders and Advices, that he from time to time shall receive from them: and not to give any Allowances for Damages, or allow any thing of moment for Demurrages, Casual Accidents, or Mistakes, without advising them first, and receive ample Instructions from them for it. And, in fine, he is an Image or Deputy of the Commissioners; yet more properly a Husband; or, as the name

name more properly signifies, an Agent to act or do; yet as a Substitute to, and put in by the said Commissioners, unto whom he is only accountable, and no where or otherwise concerned, than as his either general Instructions, or particular Orders direct him. His general Instructions ought to prescribe him his Methods in general, for supplying of Ships wants; by what Vouchers or Warrants, he should order Deliveries; whose Orders he must obey, without appealing to them for Advice, and whose not; and whatsoever he hath not in his general Instructions, he ought to advise the Victualing Board therewith, and expect their Orders therein: He is of principal moment at the Port, I say, he being Resident, and in the absence of a Commissioner, is to cause the whole Affair to move by his Dictates; and gives his Orders to the Store-keeper, for issuing and receiving; and also for Deliveries to Brewers,

126 *Naval Speculations*: Or,  
Brewers, Bakers, and Coopers, &c. And  
next under him is the Store-keeper, who  
is warranted by the Commissioners also,  
but Sub to the Agent: He receives and  
issues by the Dictates and Orders of him:  
He takes care for the Cutting, Salting,  
Packing, and Stowing of the said Provi-  
fions, and the Transporting them on  
Board the Ships; receiving them back as  
Returns; and taking care for Sifting, Re-  
packing, Overhalling, and preserving  
them; and should give the Agent an ac-  
count of the condition and quantities of  
them, at all reasonable demands. For  
Quantities the Agent should be as well  
able to know as himself; for he ought not  
to receive or issue any thing, without his  
Orders; the which the Agent ought to  
enter, as Debtor and Creditor, to him;  
thereby he should be able to give the  
Board a state of the Quantities in a Post's  
time; but absolute Qualities he cannot,  
without a Survey, but something near he  
might,

might, if it be duely done, and in good Method, as such an Affair of Quantity requires: For that Affair, the whole Welfare thereof, *viz.* the Readiness and Serviceableness thereof to the King, is of great moment in the busines I am treating of; the which is no small Affair to the Kingdom: I say, it is in the Management thereof, and may easily, by persons that are ignorant of it, or were never brought up, or had any practice or knowledge therein, be brought to great Damages, and be made extreme chargeable to the King: For Prudent Management is a great part of this Affair for Profit; and the best and surest way to it, is to have Good Instruments therein; and not to put Pupils and Novices into such Affairs, to serve Private Interests; that is, to make the Treasure, nay, if not the Wealth and Strength of the Nation, be spent, or do truckle to, and serve the Interest of some particular Persons in their

128 **Naval Speculations:** Or,  
their Relatives and Parties. As I have  
elsewhere decried the Practice, so I do  
here also, *viz.* not to put by Men of  
approved Knowledge and Experience in  
the said Business, and of long Service,  
and in the room put in Novices, Pu-  
pils, and every way unfit, on purpose  
to serve a Private Interest: It is but the  
worst way of making the Publick main-  
tain them.

**V. Of other Irregularities in  
the Navy.**

1. **The Clother, or, Slop-seller.**

2. **The Purser, or whom he shall get  
to Issue.**

3. **The Mariner Buying, and the Pay-  
master Defalking.**

**T**HE Slop-seller, is a Person crept into the Navy, I mean to monopolize the vending of Cloathing solely, but since the Restoration of King Charles the Second; nor then, but by degrees, as he could make Interest, and have Interest in the Affair. For I remember Mr. Richard Beckford, and Mr. Burrows did vend chiefly to the Navy; but not to hinder any others to Issue. For Mr. Thomas Beckford, afterwards Knight, Brother to the said Richard

K

and

and others, but as his Stock, and willingness of the *Purfees* to Issue for him, did encrease, did vend, and did endeavour to under-sell, and out-do each other; but as yet his Interest could not reach to Ingross it, until after some time, as he grew able, did procure a Warrant from the Duke of York, then *Lord High Admiral*, to have the sole vending to the Navy; yet, under the fair Pretences of shewing Samples to the *Navy-Board*, and they agreeing Prices for the Particulars; which Prices were followed indeed, but the Qualities of the Goods were debased, as he thought good: There was also added to the fairnes thereof, That when they were opened on Board, if the Commander did not think them reasonable good according to the Prices, he should abate the Prices, or stop the Issuing of them. Who could expect that a Captain should be able to judge indifferently of such Goods, or, that the *Slop-seller* should stand

to the Judgment of every Captains knowledge, or justice towards his Concerns? But this effect it hath had, That if the Purser have dared to set down any lower price, than what his Invoyces mentioned, he must pay it himself; and so he had like order to the Pay-master of the Navy, to be accountable to him for all the whole Defalkation of the Ships Books; so that if the Purser took, or bought any Cloathing of any at better Prices, and more suitable to the Seamen's Wants, and set it off upon the Books, the Pay-master, and Slop-seller understanding each other, brought all, *viz.*, Dead-mens Cloaths, sold at the Mast, or any one Furnishing the Marriner in his Sickness and Wants, to the Slop-sellers Credit; and out of his Hands it was not easily, nor wholly gotten, but at his Pleasure: And thereby, all People willing to assist the Seaman in his Wants, upon the Credit of his Pay, were thereby Deterred, and the Sailor totally frustra-

132 Naval Speculations. Or,  
frustrated of any choise, or good Mar-  
ket for his Money, but that called Hob-  
son's Choice, *That or none*: In all which  
care taken for the good of the Sailer, and  
to keep him healthy and well in the Ser-  
vice, seems to me to have a quite contrary  
Effect; and indeed is no other than a Me-  
thod to make one Man Rich, at the cost  
of many Thousands, and to the loss of  
many Mens Lives and Healths; so conse-  
quently to the Impairing of the Service,  
for the truth of it is, That every Man  
that serves the King for Wages, hath a  
Right thereto, as good as any Man hath  
to receive Rent for a House or Land, if he  
does his Duty, and to buy or sell thereupon,  
and Engage the same for Payment;  
which Engagement should be satisfied at  
the Payment of the Ship, or Tickets there-  
of, as the said Engagements doth Import:  
and if more than one appears for the  
same Sum, no Preference to be allowed,  
but as their Dates, or other Valuation in  
as far as

Law

Law requires; then would the Seamen never suffer such wants, as both them and their Families have and doth suffer; their Wives and Children would be reasonably supported in their Absences, and they supplied at the Commencement of their Voyage, with Necessaries for their Preservation in the Service, by some of the Ship, or Port where they shall frequent, when People know that their Payment is of some Certainty, and not to be turned off Disgracefully to the Honesty of the Sailer, who is apt enough to refuse Payment, when his Wants are satisfied: And herein is the *Commissioner of the Pay* his Justice to be exercised, to prevent Evil Men from Cheating the People who Credit them, and bring a Scandal upon the Service, which makes the hard-heartedness towards them in their Wants.

Now I intimate, that the Debts contracted, during that Service, should have

134 Naval Speculations Or,  
preference before those contracted before  
the Commencement of that Service: The  
*Dutch* use that Method, that a Sailer  
need never want Credit for to supply his  
Wants, *viz.* As the Sailer hath need,  
the Captain gives him a Bill for so much  
Money as his Needs, or of his Families  
are; which Bill he sends home, where  
there are enough that will take that Bill  
at a small Abatement: The just perfor-  
mance of the same, gives such Credit to it,  
that People will strive who should have it  
at the least loss, they being paid without  
Rebuke, or uncertain Payment; which  
hath been the Fate of the Affairs in Eng-  
*land* for many Years past, that a Ticket-  
Buyer is an Odium: And notwithstanding  
most of the Tickets have been bought and  
sold, and past to Account by Quantities,  
and done behind the Curtain; if a Man  
should happen to be Discharged by a  
Ticket, and needs Money for his Equip-  
ment for another Voyage, he is in a Wood,  
and

and knows not which way to bring that into Money , nor have any Friend that is willing to supply him, and send him about another Voyage, nor any Encouragement to do it, lest he does undergo the Guilt of a Ticket-buyer, which have been accounted as Cheats ; so that if he does, he may lose his Money, or else he must find out the way behind the Curtain, as others do, where is most cruel loss , it going through so many Hands to the Mark. I say, for many Years past, this Practise hath been, That like *Woodstock-Bower*, or the *Enchanted-Castle*, except he had that Clew of Thread, *viz.* found the Mystery he should never attain the end, except the Person himself did attend ; yet so he must find out the Knot and untie it,} after he had worn out his Patience by Delays, and scornful Answers ; but two to one,e're that he had worn out both his Patience and his Cloaths, and had found the way behind the Curtain, and

136 **Rabul Speculations** Or,  
taken some Money for it, but not enough  
to pay his Creditors, nor relieve his Fa-  
mily, but Packt away on another Voyage,  
thin Cloathed, and Pennyless ; cursing  
the Service, but whom he cannot tell : I  
say, this hath been the Fate of the Sailer  
for many Years together, yet fresh enough  
to Memory ; and still the King saves not  
a Penny, but pays every Groat on't, and  
perhaps Interest, to raise the said Money  
for it : Nay, a Stranger would think in  
himself, if he stood but by to hear the  
Answers to Questions about the good or  
bad payment, or where-ever it would be  
paid, that the Parties Intrusted in the Af-  
fair did give the greatest Disreputation  
to it, whose duty it was, to have main-  
tained and supported the King's Credit  
with the *Maritime* People, which is of  
more value than all the Merchants Credits  
in *England* ; for their Welfare, and the  
whole Nations depends upon the Prospe-  
rity of the *Navy*: For if we ever be brought

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to truckle under the *French* at Sea, as I doubt, hath been fairly endeavoured for; farewell the Honour and Felicity of this Nation; but perhaps the Actors therein would have made themselves great thereby, according to their Desires: What a dreadful case is it that ever a Man should set his Hand to the utter ruine of his Nation, with the Religion, Laws, and Liberties thereof; and to settle that upon his Posterity, *viz.* a little Pelf; and knows not but that, as another *Pharoah*, who knew not *Joseph*, would make them all Bondmen. I fear there is remaining upon Posterity too many Honours and Estates of Persons, Gaining them by the daring to adventure the breach of the Laws of God and their Nation: For never did a Nation undergo any great Alteration, whether for the better, or for the worse, but Honours are created thereupon: Wherefore it would be as necessary, as upon the Entrance of any King upon the Throne,

138 **Rabul Speculations**: Or,  
Throne, to pass an Act of Indemnity ;  
so also to pass an Act for the Confirming  
of Honours, wherein every Honour by  
Patent, should be Named : Or, if it be a  
shorter way to be excepted, that have  
raised it, or used his Ancestors Honour,  
to the breach of the Laws established ; so  
that none should pass, but what stood  
the Scrutiny ; which would be a means to  
deter Men from getting Honours so ill,  
or preserve their Ancestors at so base a  
rate : Knowing that if he suffer in one  
King's Reign, his Posterity will surely be  
righted in another, if ever the Nation  
comes to it self again. However, the  
true Object of a Just and Honest Man, is  
to fear God, do what is Just, and to  
wait upon him for the Issue of his Pati-  
ence.

Having followed the pursuit hereof,  
and digressed, I will return to my *Slop-  
seller* ; and therefore say, That the Sailers  
Market, instead of Restraint, should be  
promo-

promoted, and People Invited to come on Board by their Civil Treatment; and to trust the Sailer with their Goods a-shoar, when they are Bargained for; by endeavouring all that are concerned therein, that they be duly paid for, with the least Trouble or Defalkation to them; and to use all the art to promote his Majesty's Credit in the Affair, not only with his *Maritime*, but with all his Subjects: For Credit and Honour are too near of Kin to be made Opposites, as for some time it hath been. Nay, it would answer to that great end of Profit to the Service, by taking off the growing charge, *viz.* if Money be not ready to pay the Ships, they might have Tickets, which would be bought up by Monied Men at little loss to the Sailer, and expedite the Affair; there being Money enough in Money'd-Mens Hands, who would be glad thereof, if they were Encouraged and Countenanced therein: The contrary Practice

I understand not. I say, let any Man sell his Ticket openly upon the Exchange, Street, or Shops, and countenanced through the Nation, and reckon'd a good piece of Service to lay out much Money in them ; but that which added greatly to the Sailors Damages before , being now removed, *viz.* Buying of Tickets should not be declaimed, and yet sold behind the Curtain, by only those who have private Correspondence ; but that it should be free, and declared a Commendable Service : I say, these Indirect Policies being removed, the Sailor would be in mighty Credit, and the whole Affair would go on with Life and Vigour ; any thing to the contrary I do not understand.

I confess, I should add hereto the usual Objections, to back their Practices aforesaid ; (and they are,) That the Sailor is Cheated ; and again, he spends his Money in Drink, and is kept on Shoar from the

the Service thereby: the which is all meer Sham, and only a mudding the Water to catch Fish. For to pretend to keep a Man's Money from him, to make him a good Husband, and that he be not Robbed on't; and in the mean time to leave a way open for him to be Cheated cleanly of a fifth, fourth, or third part on't, as he can escape their hands, or to fall under a *Post-pone*; the which the Cunning Dealers do foresee, and find Preference to avoid; but from ever *Post-poning* the Naval Debts of this Nation, *Good Lord Deliver the King and Parliament*: But instead, to strengthen the Publick Credit of the King with the Navy, by an Act, That whosoever should buy the Bills for Stares, Tickets, or Debenters for Wages, &c. should receive their Money without any Defalcation made therefrom, save what was Written fairly to their view upon it, before they bought it; and that in its due Course, with-

out any Preference, as they are entered in the Office for Assignments; and that the Publick Credit being past therein, that Officer that should make any Preferrences in Assignment or Pay, should be Discarded, or such Penalties be inflicted as may be thought fit; and whosoever in any Office, that should speak slightly to disparage the Payment, and undervalue the Affair, should be treated in like Terms as a Merchant, or Shop-keeper, Lord, or Gentleman, would Treat his Servant that does, when any one comes to him for a Debt due from his Master, answer him Surlily, and Contemptibly, and Doubtfully, whether ever it would be paid: Such Servants, I confess, I have heard, have been in some Families; But what were they? Such as ranked not Honour and Credit together, and let all run at Hurles; and was Precipitating to an end of Honour, Credit, and Estate. I judge the Affair I am treating of, will aptly enough

enough fit the Comparison; and therefore I will conclude with the *Slop-seller*, That if the Affair were carried as aforesaid, there will need no *Slop-seller*, but such as shall strive to undersel each other, and trust to the *Purser* for vending of them, or any one else, and produce their Bill for them to be stopt out of their Pay, and paid at the Pay of the Men; or, that the *Pay-master* do answer the Draughts of the *Purser*; as for Dead-mens Cloaths, Tobacco, Necessaries, or Money for the supply of themselves and Families; and the *Purser* to make good his Draughts, and account with the *Pay-master* for the whole Defalcations on the Ships Books; the which he ought to make good and stand to; for why the *Slop-seller*, or the *Pay-master* should have the Ballances, no reason is to be given. More might be said, but I spare.

This

This was the Ancient Custom of the Navy before Corruption, Bribery, and private Interest came into the Affair; and Tricks, and Designs of Exposing the Honour and Safety of the Nation to the Power and Will of some, none of the best Meaning: Since which Designs began, things have run on with a swift Innundation, overflowing the Banks of Method, Discipline, and Government; so now hoping that the source is stopt, and that the breaches will be made up again, and the right Courses well cleansed and scoured, and so kept in the right Channel; to which purpose I will labour yet to bring more Materials, and conclude this Paragraph with Advice to the *Slop-seller*; That if he will sell as cheap as any others, and take the *Purser's Bills*, and Ballance his Ac-compt with him, and not crave Imprest-Money of the *Navy-Board*, to pay him in part before-hand; then I believe

believe he may sell a great deal of Cloaths, and be a Gainer enough, but not enough to understand the *Paymaster*, and Friends assisting ; and to keep Coaches, and live like a Peer too ; which I think he will not condescend unto ; and therefore I take leave of him, and desire no more of his Company in this Affair.

*VI. Of the Clerical and Ministerial part of the Navy.*

I Have a few words to speak to this Affair, having observed in the Navy a general decay of Piety ; and that I conceive proceeds from the Root in the last Paragraph, for Subverting and Subjecting the Navy, as well in the Ecclesiastical as the Civil and Military part thereof, and for that purpose Men have been sent too often, that have given ill Examples of Lives and Conversation so light, and disposed to Mode and Gallantry, not sparing to go or enter into the Lists of Debauchery, with any of the Officers they shall happen to be accounted of ; are also void of good Morals, and over busie with other Mens matters, and do become the Ridicule of the Ship ; a Stain and Blot to the Function they bear, and

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an Impairing to the *Protestant Religion*; for the *Maritime People* are not naturally over Zealous, yet they can often produce better Temperance, Chastity, Modesty, Honesty, Courage, &c. than appears in some of these Sparks which are taken from the Altars of the Universities: For to see Debauchery, Unchaste Speeches, and Deeds with Immodesty, Dishonesty, fearful Pusillanimity, Covetousness, and busie with other Mens matters, prevalent in a Minister's Carriage, certainly his Preaching and Praying, the better it be performed, the worse it fares with his Embassy for belief. As for Example:

If a Prince sends an Embassy to his Neighbour Prince, for the settling a good Correspondence, of Balance in Trade, or Assistance in Needs, &c. which Ambassador, to cause the Prince he comes to to believe, that what he says, and conditions with him for, will certainly be performed; and therefore extols, and sets forth

148 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
his Master's Justice, his great Strength,  
his Kindness for him, *viz.* his Ability,  
Justice, Truth, and Willingness to serve  
him, in very laudable Terms; and by a  
Person, (*viz.* the Ambassador,) who must  
be a Man of good Aspect, and of good En-  
dowments, as may be had in one Man;  
nay, and his Retinue also; that they may  
be a Grace and Honour to their Master,  
Nation, and the Business they come a-  
bout; but if not, the effect will be clean  
contrary: And so of the Sea-Chaplains,  
who if they are of bad Lives, &c. the  
better their preaching and Praying is per-  
formed, the farther they Preach the Peo-  
ple out of conceit with their Religion;  
but if a Sot and Dunce, doing his Office  
like himself, and living ill, they are the  
less offended at it, and conjecture that  
the reason the Affair being so ill presented  
and set forth to them, is not the fault of  
the Message, or the goodness of the Reli-  
gion, but its Fate to fall into the hands of

a Slovenly, Sottish, and a Dunce of a Priest ; but if an Ingenious Man, though Debauch'd, Vitious, and a Coward, comes to them, it makes them to question their Religion they profess ; and comparing the strict Lives of the *Roman Catholicks* abroad, the Macerating Fastings, and in fine, their *Pompous Shows* fairly set forth, of a True and Sincere Faith, and a good Church-Discipline, and compare it with Ours, would be ready prepared, and apt, when the Iron came to be hot, (as it was heating apace) to declare, That their Religion had been all along in the wrong, and that now they would, if demanded, imbrace the right ; they thinking, by their bare Speculations to have judged aright. Wherefore there ought to be great care taken, that whosoever is sent on these Missions, should be Man of Excellent Lives and Deportments.

150 **Naval Speculations**: Or,

Now if it should be said, none would go then in the Fourth Rates, because of small Companies of Men for their Profits ; and few good Men could be gotten to adventure in the other, but such as by their Insufficiency, or Unfitness, have missed their Preferments on Shoar. To this I Answer, that either the Visitor of the College, or Head of the University, have not power or will to detach able Missionaries for the Sea, and to gratifie their Labours with Preferment at their Returns, or there is a Miscarriage in the doing it ; for it is better none were sent, than such as I described ; and let the Groats go towards the maintainance of the Sick and Wounded Seamen, from whom it is stopt, as it is now ordered in case of no Chaplain, of which more hereafter.

But in case of sending Chaplains, there should be Dean Rurals appointed. *viz.* to Correspond with the Suffragan, or he

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that chuses out these Missionaries, and sends them to let them know of the *Misdemeanors* of every one ; the said *Dean* to be on Board of every *Flag*, or *Commander* of every *Squadron*, every Ship's Boats-Commander , and Officers frequenting there, he may enquire if any *Misdemeanors* be ; that perhaps a *Reproof*, or *Admonition* in the Spirit of *Love* may do ; or else give account to the *Suffragan*, who should send for him away quietly, and send another in his *room* ; and not let him abide there Preaching backwards, till either the Captain does disgracefully turn him aside, or bring him to a *Council of War*, and so discard him.

Now I being come to the Paragraph, *of the Government of the Ships at Sea*, this relating to the same, I thought it *worthy* to have a distinct *Discourse* preluding to the *others* ; and having before told you of an evil *Root*, that bears evil

*Fruit*

152 **Naval Speculations**: Or,

*Fruit in the Navy*; also thence sprang this Branch for the *Commander* to put what *Chaplain* he pleased into the Ship; so that if the *Chaplain* pleased not him, he was not to be admitted, or continued: And therefore, as I was saying before, That they had need to have *good Courage* to oppose the not to be pleased *Commander*, without he submits either to Cajole him in his Irreligious, Debauched, and Atheistical Expressions; and all others of the same Temper, who must all be his Imitators; or else he must submit to be turn'd off, and seek for another. But this was not heretofore so, for whom the Suffragan did send was to be the Man: Indeed if a Captain desired any one that he knew, and the Suffragan had not ought against him, he was gratified with him; but no *Chaplain* should be either rejected by the Captain on his own Knowledge, or from the Splenetick Representation of another, without being cal-

led to a *Council of War*, if he had committed any Crime that came within the Articles of War, or before the *Admiral*, or *Commander in Chief*, for less Offences: Where the *Dean-Rural* is, who should exert his Care over him, to defend his Innocent and Harmless Behaviour? and not suffer him to fall under his *Commander's* Displeasure, and be disgraced thereby, if Innocence and Inoffence be found in him; and that he be not subjected to the sole Will of the *Commander*, and therefore forced to submit to base Demaenor, both to the *dishonour* of himself, and him that sent him: For the Basis of the Design was so laid, whereof I spoke before, That making the Captain Absolute and Despotical, they let him break a-sunder all Laws, Privileges, Methods, or Prescriptions at pleasure, and let all Superior Officers act consonant thereunto. So that in making sure of them, *viz.* the Captains, that they would come over

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at a Whistle, their great design would take effect : But no Humane Policies were ever laid so sure, but that there were Ifs, Ands, and Doubts in it ; and never was a Town or Fort made by the Art of Man so strong, but under God's permission, by the Art of Man was found out a place, or means to make it Pregnable ; so have these Designers (God be praised) been disappointed, before they could finish their Work upon this Basis, and like *Confused Babel's* work, made an abrupt stop, and so stand still : I have not read that any means was used to destroy their Foundation, begun at *Babel* ; that none other like attempt might be made upon the same Basis ; but as the Scripture says, *They were all dispersed, some one way and some another, and divided* ; that therefore there may be thought no need to make any Provision against a second attempt in that kind, and on that Basis ; as was at the turning our First Parents out of *Paradice*,  
and

and setting Flaming Swords to defend it from any more entrance; but in this case it is not as it was with the *Babel Builders*; but the Basis stands in a great part, and the Builders also; but the *Motions* are slow, yet the *Machin* being entire, and so only watches for the moving of the Waters to turn the Wheels which way soever a Few will direct it: This being a *Preludim*.

## VII. *Of the Government of Ships at Sea.*

FIRST the Captains and Lieutenants are to be considered : The Lieutenant being the Image of the Captain, and the Executor of his Command ; I conclude them under the Captain's Circumstance, he being the Head and Principal of the Ship, and may be fitly compared to an Emblem of *Monarchy* ; which, with *Moderate Bounds* and *Constitutions*, is the best of *Governments* ever yet found out in the *World* ; and therefore most to be desired and maintained. The Captain, I say, is the *Ruler* and *Governour* of the Ship and Men, in all Matters, both Military and Civil ; nay, and Ecclesiastical too ; he orders and disposes of the Ship, and its *Military Provisions* and *Stores*, and prepares her, and fits her for *Military Execu-*

*Execution*, either for Defence, or Offence, as he sees *occasion*; and for the doing it, he hath of all sorts, of both *Commissioned* and *Warranted Officers*, Temporary and Standing Officers, appointed from the *Admiralty*, and *Navy-Board*, &c. to act in their several Stations and Trusts; and they all having, or ought to have, as well as himself, Ample Instructions, to act in their particular Places and Trusts; the which if they *follow*, they ought to be protected in Safety, as well by him, from any Injuries offered them, or their Charges by any others, as also encouraged in their Duties; so also by the *Admiralty* and *Navy-boards*, from any Injuries offered them by him, or suffered by his Connivance.

Now as to *Instructions*, I having said something thereof elsewhere before in general, I shall here speak more particularly; and that is, That although the *Forms* and *Prescriptions* for the *Captains Command*

158 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
mand hath been so enlarged and altered  
of late, in every Circumstance relating to  
the Standing Officers, unto whom are  
committed all the *Stores* of the Ship, that  
there is scarce any sign of the former Pra-  
ctice remaining, the Particulars being *too*  
many for me here to speak to: Yet I say,  
the standing Officers their *Instructions* are  
the same which have been near these  
Thirty Years standing, to my knowledge,  
and not one Tittle of them is of use, or  
practice, or have been expected from them  
some Years past, saving the passing their  
Accounts, and making their Returns; the  
which *Instructions*, if they should stand  
*to*, and abide by, they would be ruined:  
Neither have the Captains, and Lieute-  
nants, and the Warrant Officers *Instruc-  
tions*, any *Concordance* or *Cohherence* toge-  
ther; but the Practice hath been to sub-  
mit to the *Commander's* Pleasure, and if  
he be not Angry all is well; the which is  
a very hard matter to please, except they  
will

will be content to go to Sea for *nought*, and truckle under his Creatures : I say, this is the case in general, now grown to that height of Pride and *Imperial Command*, that an Officer that cannot screw himself into his Favour, were as good be a Slave in *Algiers*, for he must undergo all Hardships and Indignities that all wicked-minded Men can put upon, or devise against him ; and, as I may say, suffer himself to be Pifte upon by every *Inferior*, that the Captain will either *favour* or *connive* at ; this is so true and *common* to the knowledge of all that know the *Navy*, that it may pass without farther *proof* : So that if any one should not be tempered for this usage, but be so hardy as to vindicate his Right, he is certainly ruin'd, and turned to seek his Bread elsewhere, perhaps in his Latter Days ; and must not expect to be heard in his own Defence.

I confess, there is no *General*, for so I speak, but does admit of *particular Exceptions*; that is, there are some *Moderate Men* in their Commands, but *too too few*, and they not fully arrived to the design, which is yet more, *viz.* to have the Office of the *Purser* annexed to the *Captain*, then were they as *Absolute* and *Despotical* as the King of *France* is, and of late hath proved to be, over his Subjects; and he no doubt did concurr in the design of Contracting the *Navy of England* under the Despotical Power of a Few, for the purpose, rather than many: To which, I say, and no other, tended these *discordant* and *incohering Circumstances*, which caused Jarrings, Disheartnings, and thence the Murmuring and Complainings in our Ships, and the *Navy* abundantly weakened. And as to the Safety and Welfare of the *Navy*, for the Viqualling to be deposited into the hands of the *Captain*, What may be the Effects thereof?

thereof, I cannot so well speak to, because it is not yet agreed how to order it: Some project, after the *Dutch* Example; Others, for the King to Victual, and the *Captain* to act by an Instrument under him; And a third, a mixt way. As to the *Dutch* way, the *Captains* agree with their *Admiralties*, at a certain price, for so many Mens Victuals, for such a Ship under their Commands, and the Particulars thereof are specified; and a *Scrivan* or *Muster-Master* of every Ship is sent, beside a *General Muster-Master* in every *Fleet*, to keep Checque, and Muster all the Fectives, noting all the Dead, and Runaways; and by his Book the *Captain* is paid for Victuals, and the Bills are paid which he draws home, *viz.* for Wages to Men: He pays, when abroad, according to Instructions; of all which, the *Scrivan* keeps due account with him. Now the Victualling of the *Dutch*, is chiefly *Groat* or *Oatmeal*, *Grey-pease*, *Stockfish*, *Butter*, and *Cheese*, &c. and a little *Flesh* once a Week:

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Now

162 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Now they have not Flesh in their Country, to do as we do ; therefore, if the King will alter the Quantity and Specie of his Victualling, he may ; but it will not agree to the Temper of his Subjects, but cause a great murmuring ; *First*, By his Sea-men : And *Secondly*, By the Farmers, Gentry, and Nobility of the Nation, that the Product of their Lands be not bought off and expended, with the Money they are taxed to maintain the War with ; and urge, That the Strength of the Navy would be impaired and weakened thereby, and be the cause of an Universal Disquiet. And next, the King must put in *Captains* stockt with Moneys, or Security for the performance of their Duty, else the Ships would never be in readiness to Sail, for want of Provisions to act together ; the Money else would be spent that should buy them, and few would trust them, and the Men would be abused with wants, and cannot,

not, nay, dare not complain. It may be said, Why with us, more than the *Dutch*? I Answer, The *Dutch* are a different People by Nature, and different in their Government, which is partly *Democracie*, and partly *Aristocracie*; they are severe Justiciaries, and strict Performers of Contracts to the Publick; in which, from one degree of Office to another, they are all sharply lookt to, and therein are not pestered with so many Methods, pretending to avoid wrong, whereas 'tis only a Mist cast before our Eyes, and proves a burden to the Publick, and has contrary effects to the intention, and makes the Proverb true, *That the more Cooks, the worse Broth*: For the *Dutch*, if any should be caught Cheating or Abusing the Publick, he must run his Country, or never hope to escape great Punishment, with Confiscation of all he has; for such is the Hatred of them all, to those that hurt the Publick, for every one

reckons himself a Sharer in the Publick Wrongs, that if his Wrong hath taken wind, and it be considerable, two to one but before he can withdraw, the *Mobile* will cut him off, and none dares to countenance his Escape, for fear of the *Mobile*: *Remember the De Wits*; for if such profuse exhausting of Treasure, and Mis-application from the true Intentions, and Plots against the Publick, had been committed there, as have been here, they would not have Escaped; but if the *Publick Justiciaries* had not done Justice, the *Mobile* would have Carved it out themselves: So I say, their Constitution is far different from ours, for Interest runs not so high there: Now would they who labour for this Alteration in the *Navy*, also bring the Nation under such a Government as they are, then they may expect it should answer the end as theirs does: But it is not better than ours, nor half so well, if our Constitutions had been

been preserved, and Private Interest cast out, and Commands carried so Moderate and Just as theirs ; but it is plain and obvious to me, that this Practice and Endeavour is only the Basis of the Work, or Design on foot, which I e're while compared unto *Babel* ; and a Superstructure to be thereon built, to have the *Navy* in a few hands, who would be Absolute and Despotical therein : And if they do design to have the *Navy* after the *Dutch* Government, if they would have it thrive in like manner as they do, they must intend to alter the Government of the Nation into a *Commonwealth*, as theirs is, or else it will never frame as theirs, for the Reasons I have before mentioned ; but I think it is past their skill yet. I could add many more Reasons, but it is needless ; and therefore I would have them put out of hopes of ever Ingrossing or Enslaving the *Navy of England* under a Despotical power, and consequently of turning the

Government of the Nation upon Hinges which have but few Joynts; the which is very dangerous in a *Monarchy*, but not so in a *Commonwealth*, who by their long-continued and beloved Constitutions, having been accustomed by Allarms of being Robbed of their Liberties, will, on any Allarm, as a Flight of *Sterlings*, cast themselves into an orderly Flock, when they espy a *Hawk* at hand; but in a *Monarchy*, it is altogether unsafe to put their strength at the Devotion of a few hands: Moreover, it is against all *Maxims* in Policy, to make any Alterations in a long-setled and approved Method of Management in a material part of the Government, Strength, and Wealth of a Nation.

This Project was on foot in King Charles the Second's Time; who Answered, *And Captain, When your Men suffer, unto whom should Men complain? To your self, for Justice?* He said, *He would be Just:*

*Just.* The King said, *He had a good Opinion of his Captains,* but laughed at the Project ; and so it died for that time. And as for those who would have them Victualled by the *King*, and the *Captain* account with him for it, instead of the *Purser*, they are thus Answered, *That their Projection is yet more open for Despotical Power, for then it will be brought to a far heavier burthen for the Nation, by the Commissioners Providing, and the Captains Commanding, who will have the King's Purse open at their pleasures, and every one must bow to them for a piece of Bread; and what Rule an Admiralty will have over them, to keep them to Methods and Prescriptions, or a Navy-Board, is pretty well seen by a handful out of a full Sack aforesaid;* and therefore those that are for this way, are more beside the Mark; for here they have a means to make it a greater uncertainty of Charges, and have a greater influence on the Affair, and

168 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
create Necessities at their Pleasure, and  
will account at their Leisure. And as for  
those that are for a mixt way, when they  
have formed and declared their Method,  
I may be able to give them a full Answer,  
and in the mean time I will only pursue  
my Purpose, to unravel the Proceedings  
of late, in the Confused Methods left  
standing of the *Babel-Builders*; and  
that is,

*First*, There is created a *Captains Clerk*,  
for the Captains Mustering, Ticketting,  
and ordering as well of the Purser's Books,  
as of all the Expences of the other Officers,  
who has a *Midshipman's Pay* for his  
Service, and double *Midshipmens Pay*  
more added, to enable the Captain to grati-  
fie his Creatures that deserved his Fa-  
vours; and for some time he had Orders  
for double Pay, I hope this was not for  
nothing; but that part of the Building  
soon fell down: I say, here is new  
Charges for him to place it upon his

*Coc-*

Cofswain, Steward, Servants, or whom he thinks good to deserve it : The aforesaid Clerk, I say, being one chosen by him, on hopes for him to prefer him to some Office, as he will deserve by promoting his Interest, by the sole management of the Purser's Books, and the Officers Accounts ; and after his Master's turns are served therein, then his own must be next, and all the Officers Instructions given them, must be laid aside, and serve no longer than those ends they like of ; and the Officers must Trump up to this, or undergo what I have said before ; and if this be not *Babel-Building*, aspiring to reach their Heaven, Wealth, and Despotical Power, the great Object of their Industry, and this to be raised out of Confusion, I know not what to term it unto. But I doubt not but the Quick-sighted will take timely warning to prevent the design of Enthralling the Power and Wealth of the Nation, and settle it again in good Order,  
Method,

170 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Method, and Government. As to Com-  
mand, the needfulness and necessarines  
thereof is, out of all doubt, acknowledg-  
ed by all that would live under a Govern-  
ment in any Nation, City, Ship, or Com-  
munity ; but the manner of this Com-  
mand, is that which makes all Govern-  
ments differ, of which I will say in the  
Originals thereof, none differs which is  
thus ; that whatsoever a Superior Officer  
does or commands to be done at his own  
will or choice, *viz.* that he may do it,  
or leave it undone, which Act or Order,  
if it exceeds not the bounds of Justice,  
Lenity, Kindness, and such favourable  
Command as a Man might expect from his  
Father, Relation, or Friend, it is well,  
and according to the first Institution of  
Government, and requires Allacrity in  
Obedience ; but if it be Rigid, Austere,  
Moroſe, nay, Inhumane, and such a Com-  
mand as he may expect from his Captor,

or

or Enemy, then also he may obey: But how? As *Tyranny* is obeyed; wishing ill success even to that, which he is out of necessity laying his hand to: For Mankind how weak soever they may be thought to be in the Wiles of Pollicy; yet this knowledge they have by Instinct of Nature, if they are not told it by others; That from him that commands him he may expect as his due, Justice, and Protection from all Wrongs from others, and to receive none from himself, nor any hardship, but what the Service must of necessity force his Officer to lay upon him, without doing any Man wrong to favour him; for if he does at any time do wrong to another to favour him, he by secret Instinct disallows the Justice, and in his heart pronounces his Officer unjust, and expects the like Justice towards him when the wind of his Favour changes; so that Superior Officers, according to the Steps and Degrees of distance they were from

the

172 **Natural Speculations**: Or,  
the Commanded, ever were, and indeed  
ought to be as the *Patriarchs* of old  
were; their Sons, Grandsons, &c. di-  
vers Generations had their degrees of  
Command over the whole Lineage, and  
all by due course of Seniority, in the Or-  
der of Government Instituted by God  
Almighty; so that whenever they were  
(by the unfitness of the Senior to go-  
vern, or conduct) forced to alter, they  
always chose one of the same Lineage,  
nearest of Kin, to govern and conduct  
the Tribe; this being God's Institution to  
his Peculiar People for an Example to the  
rest of the World; but the other Govern-  
ments then in the World, as they were  
practised, might be supposed to be De-  
spotical and Tyrannical: As *Nimrod* the  
mighty *Hunter*, who began the First Em-  
pire in the *East*, and was worshipped as  
a God, and the *Grecian* Empire after;  
but after that the Justice of the *Western*  
Empire, or *Roman*, in their Conquests,  
may

may not in this *Island* easily be forgotten, (although *Pagans*;) but I leave it to History, and pursue my purpose, and follow the *Patriarchs* and *Fathers* of *Israel*, our Pattern: for so were all stiled that fate in Judgment, or led the People; and they ever Treated all that came before them, with the Appellations of my Sons and Daughters. Likewise also did all Generals and Commanders treat all that came before them, for Justice to be done them; or to have Justice done on them, Mildly, Friendly, and with great Clemency; and was sorry for the *Offender*, even as a *Father* is sorry for his *own Son*, when he is forced to correct him: But other sorts of Government run parallel in the World, as those mentioned, and also thereof are now extant, who may run their Bounds which God hath allotted them, for the Scourge of Mankind to serve his Eternal Purposes: These also, I say, are obeyed; as I said, through the Law of Ne-

Necessity, who carry their Commands over all, whom by Policy and Strength they have gotten under them, by Austerity and Morosity ; it being their Policy of Command to imitate Greatness in Apparel, Habiliments, Attendants, and Retinue, using overmuch Haughtiness, and slighting Reservedness, accompanied with Opprobrious and Villifying Terms to their Inferiors, even before the Faces of all Spectators ; and spurn even themselves, and their Caps cast at their Feet in undue Honour and Respect paid them ; all which is sprung from a Weed gathered lately in *France*, and planted in *England*, whose Soil hath nourished it ; that it is suddenly grown to Magnitude insupportable ; and it is no other than a Relick of the Government, where Tyranny, Arbitrary, and Despotical Power is used and maintained, there being no other means for a Tyrant to have Obedience paid him by : The large, and once Opulent,

pulent, and Populous Dominions under the *Grand Seignior* reduced to Poverty, and Paucity of People, may be a sufficient Example thereof: And it is not to be doubted, but that God's appointed time for the Alteration of that Government, draweth nigh; it being a certain truth, That all Sublunary things have their Increase and Decrease, and never stand in a state of stediness: So all *Politic Bodies*, as Governments of Kingdoms, Cities, &c. have for their Strength and Glory, Increase, State, and Decrease; but in its State it cannot stand long: For, as Doctor *Heylen* very well observes, That the Elective Kingdom of *Poland*, and the Seigniory of *Venice*, neither of them of any great strength comparable to that Empire; yet they have held it at a stop near these Hundred Years, and, for five or six Years last past, may be noted, hath been under a great Declension; so may the Kingdom of *France*, in all

176 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
all probability, by another Observator,  
undergo an Alteration; having been at  
the top of its Power, signified by exert-  
ing its power by Burning, Destroying,  
and Devastation of Countries; for that  
Kingdom cannot hope to enjoy a long  
continuance, that uses such ways for their  
Encreasing and Maintaining; they do  
serve only for the Divine Vengeance of  
the Almighty's Decrees; for the Scourge  
of Mankind, to bring to pass his Eternal  
Purposes: So I allude, That no Politie  
of Government, that is not grounded,  
and settled upon the Basis and Foundations  
of the first Institutions of Government,  
can consist with the Welfare, and lasting  
Prosperity thereof; for that Government  
which is at the Will of the Governour,  
must either imply, That he that governs  
is something more than a Man; nay, must  
be endued with all the Celestial Graces,  
and so permanent and steddy therein, e-  
ven to the Imitation of the Deity; or  
else

else it will fall under all the Humane Errors, that Mankind is subject unto, and what the product of them may be, I need not declare: Wherefore, for the assistance of Mankind, for their Propagation and Government, in all well-setled Governments, were added to the Governour, just and wholsome Laws devised and enacted by the Sages, Elders, and Heads of the People, for them to be governed by; in which the People saw their Instructions for their Duties at large, inculcated to them; as also the Rocks and Precipices they were to shun, from being made Shipwracks of by the State; so that all the Inferior Officers in that State or Pollicy, hath in the same their particular Instructions for their Offices; all which Instructions, or Constitutions ran ever from between the Governor, Superior, Inferior, and all degrees of Officers confistant to Unity and Concordance, all tending to one end and design, *viz.*

N the

178 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
the Welfare of the Governor and Go-  
verned; and in the doing of which, they  
might stand and be justifiable before their  
Superiors, and shall be Freed, or Con-  
demned by their Parity; of which this  
Nation hath no small reason for its pra-  
ctice to bleſs God; which leads me to a  
practice of the *Navy*, not much to be ad-  
mired, which is this:

That all Warranted Officers upon any  
smaller Offences, have been Caned, Bilboed,  
Despitefully intreated, and made vile and  
Contemptible to the Ships Company,  
and perhaps upon flight Occasions: And  
again, if the Crime hath been greater,  
and deserved to be brought to a *Council  
of War*, or *Court-Marshal*, there even his  
Accuser shall be one of his Judges; or  
at least he shall be Judged and Condemn-  
ed by his Superiors; and perhaps of the  
same Class of his Accuser, wherein his  
Parities are wholly excluded; now how  
this agrees to the Municipal Laws of this

Nati-

Nation, to which they are all Subjects, and what Justice they may expect, may be guessed at: To say no more, but that I do not Admire it; for the Peers of this Nation claim to be Judged by their Peers, and the Commons by their Parity, &c.

Now, as it is all my endeavour in this Discourse to invite into the Government of the Navy, all possible Just and Equitable Proceedings, administered with Mildness and Clemency towards Offenders for their Shame and Punishment; so is it no less my aim and desire to Inculcate that with Affection, and no less Justice, for the due Reward, and deserved Encouragements of all Experienced, Active, Vigilant, Honest, and Valiant Officers, Preferments be freely and indifferently granted; and to let the warm Beams of Favours, even like the Beams of the Sun shine indifferently upon all Heads, and not to have it confined to Private Recommendations on Private Interest. As,

180 Naval Speculations Or,  
*First*, For Punishment in Criminals, where Life is questioned, why it may not be consistant to the Municipal Laws of this Nation, that a Warrant Officer be Tryed by a Jury of Twelve Warrant Officers, and the Council or Court sitting, and superseding, as the Judges and Justices at the Assizes; I know no reason to the contrary.

*Secondly*, For Crimes of Petty larcenies, for Stores, Cowardice, Ill-behaviour in Battle, Disobedience to Command, or any Offence which may require either Corporal or Pecuniary Punishment to be inflicted by if it be brought to a *Court-Marshal*, Why they may not be Tryed by their Parity, I know not.

*Thirdly*, Where they deserve to be Degraded and Discarded, why they may not be Judged, and undergo their Parities Sentence as to Matter of Fact, and be sent either to the *Admiral* at Sea, or to the *Lord High Admiral* within the Narrow-Seas,

Seas, or Rivers, to be dealt with as they shall think fit? For then the Merit of the Cause will appear, *viz.* Matter of Fact, and not be turned out barely upon the Captains Word or Letter; which never yet was practised, till of late Years, and sprang from the Root I so often spoke of before: Now as I spoke before, that Ample and Concordant Instructions are most needful to be given to all Officers for the Performance of their respective Duties; so that I here intimate, That upon the proof of Fact, the breach of their Instructions would be a ready Condemnation, if considerable for their Dismission; as also their Performance a Justification for them, without which can be nothing expected, but Distraction, Confusion, and Arbitrary Proceedings: And then for their Encouragements by Preferments, Why may not their Capacities and Abilities be also taken notice of, when certified by Warranted Officers, that are

182 Naval Speculations Or,  
reckoned ancient experienced Men of the  
same Employments, some nominated, and  
appointed for Probators, as well as all  
from the Captains and Commissioners;  
and let no Certificates be made or valued,  
that hath more than one Hand to it, who  
ought to certifie no more than he knows  
to be true of that Man; and let some  
body of Credit also certifie of their know-  
ledge of his Sober Life, and a constant  
Adherer to the Government established,  
both in Church and State; the Certificates  
being all single, if it happens not to be  
true, it should reflect upon the Certifier  
to his damage, to certifie a Lye; and  
thereby indeavouring to introduce into  
the Affair(as lately) *Papists* and other Per-  
twistions, that the Management of the  
Affair of the *Navy* should not be Com-  
mitted unto, and Pestered with, to avoid  
Divisions, Party-makings, Trickings, and  
Designings, as I have elsewhere spoken,  
instead of Unity and Concord to be desi-  
red

red, as there instanced : I say, Why these, or the like may not be done, I find no Reason.

Indeed some may say, that by Trying by Parities, and the like, by Certificates, there would run such a Propensity in them towards the favour of their own Employments, that it would not answer the end described.

To which I Answer : If the Officers were all chosen for good Qualifications, as I before intimated, no doubt but that there would be as Impartial Proceedings as could be expected ; but if the Officers be made only from the Captains, &c. on their bare Recommendations, as of late ; then there may be expected such Officers, as hath, or can, by the Art of Fawning, Flattery, Slavish and Obsequious Observances of the Captain or his Creatures ; or for some service done, not very commendable in its self, yet bespeaks him to be in the Captains Favour : I say, from

184 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
such Officers cannot be expected much  
Justice: But this Argument, that no Ju-  
stice may be expected from them, you  
may as well say so of all the Proceedings  
of the *Courts of Justice* in the *Nation*:  
You may by the same reason put by all  
the Juries of the Kingdom, and pretend  
their Partiality to their Equals, and Try  
all Matters by the Judges and Justices  
of the *Benches*, and by such as the King  
shall Commissionate for that purpose,  
and then may you have such a Govern-  
ment at Land, as you desire at Sea; and  
only then you will be sensible thereof:  
And this is a Fruit born on another Branch  
of that Weed I have so often mentioned;  
the which, if it should be used so on the  
Land, I say, it would be very Un savory  
Fruit to the Palates of the Nation.

But some Man will say, that there can-  
not be a proper Comparison between the  
Government at Sea, and the Land.

I Answer. It is very fit and proper; for they are the same People that govern the one and the other, *viz.* Commissioned and Deputed; and the same that obey at Sea, and at Land; and the same Law-makers for the Government of the one as the other; and Justice bears the same Face, and is the Attribute of God, and as much required at Sea, as at Land.

Having, I think, said enough to Con-vince any Moderate Man herein, I pro-ceed to the Emoluments and Profits of the Officers, as a Recompence to each Man for his Labour, and Jeoparding his Liberty, Limbs, and Life it self, for the support of their Familes; a great Object to them in their Absence, or Death, or for their Maintainance in Old Age, Sick-ness, and loss of Limbs; which is by certain Wages allotted them; Allowances of Perquisites in divers Cases and Acci-dents happening; as also by Prizes taken, and by Goods and Moneys acquired by Ad-

Adventures; and also their Privileges for themselves, and Instruments under them, that they be not abused, nor dis-countenanced, nor their Cabins Store-Rooms, and Easements taken from them, and abridged of all Happiness, or Healthy Living on Board, by being too strait-lac'd, and confined; all which are according to antient Prescriptions, and known Customs and Practices of the *Navy Royal* to be their Dues. Now if the Government thereof, is become *Arbitrary*; and if any one is abridged thereof, and his Profits, &c. either taken from him, diverted to others, or converted to the Commanders Profit; every one so served, must needs be grieved, and disappointed of his hopes for his present Maintainance; and also for his Old Age, &c.: and so hath he served for nought but Misery and Contempt: Now if there be no Appeal for that Party lying, with some reasonable safety, to complain to the *Lord High Admiral*, or to

to his Deputies, *viz.* the Commissioners of the *Navy*, for his Redress; I mean, that it might lie open and easie for him to have access to be heard, and that there he may expect Justice indifferently to be administered: I say, if there be not, a Man may easily conclude, that Government to be Despotical and Unjust; I mean an Appeal that a Man may come off with Safety, being protected from the future Injuries he may receive from the Offender, by the anger or malice of him that hath done the wrong, by reason of this Appeal taken: For it is recommended by God unto Man, to defend the Weak and Oppressed, and to resist the Proud; meaning, That the strong Man be bound by a stronger than he, and made to restore the Wronged to his Right, and let him not dare to injure him again; but not as it is, to force a Prey out of a Lyon's Paw, and let him loose to the Party, whose Right it is to be protected, to be worried,

188 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
worried by him to death afterwards; I  
mean, that Justice be plentifully admini-  
stered on Board the Ships, that it might  
flow even out at the Scuppers; then will  
Mens Hearts be glad in the Service, and  
bear their Labours, Watchings, Pains,  
and Hazards, with Allacrity, and have  
cause to bless God, for the Promoters  
and Maintainers of these Blessings under  
God unto them; and from such Govern-  
ment, may be expected, Prosperity and  
Happiness to the Affair, and Atchievement  
of great Actions abroad, to the Glory,  
Honour, and Wealth of the Nation;  
and the *Navy* be in a Progressive motion,  
as I at first intimated.

Again, The Government of the Ships  
at Sea, was, That in Times of all consi-  
derable dangers approaching, *viz.* whe-  
ther it were best to Engage, or which way  
to manage it; which way, or what course  
to steer; if it be best to cut a Mast; and  
in fine, in all great and important Mat-  
ters,

ters, if the Commander did not call his Warrant Officers together for Council, and took their Sentiments in the majority, and put it in execution; but executed his own Will, and thereby Mischief ensued; it would have been very hard for him to have escaped deserved Shame and Punishment; for his Officers are, or ought to be material Limbs, or Parts of that Government; and in all Difficulties their Concurrence ought to be taken; but the practice of late, is clean otherwise: I say, his Officers being not awed by their dependance on him, would have witnessed freely the truth, and have laid the blame, or the burthen of the Miscarriage, upon the right shoulders: but no such thing can be practised, where Despotical Power is: It is meer Nonsense to pretend examining of Parties, hoping to come to the truth of the Matter of Fact, when the Witnesses dare not speak truth; and especially if they know that a well packt Lye,

Lye, or cunning evading of the truth, will better please the Court: Nay, if the Horse must of necessity be saddled, how easie may a Man wilfully put it upon the wrong Horse, when he knows it is not safe for him to put it on the right, for fear of being spoiled? I say, it is meer mockery, or but a shadow of due Proceedings, and is also of the Unsavory Fruit, I elsewhere mentioned.

Again, if a Ship happens to meet with Disasters at Sea; and that not for want of Carelessness, and neglect of Duty, to the endangering of Ship and Lives; and when she comes home, there be no Commissioner, or Surveyor, of power to call all the Officers before him, and examine the truth; to find out how, and by what means it came to pass, and to know the true state of the thing, and what is most necessary to be done now, for the good, and beneficial managing of the same for the King and Service, and by knowing the

the truth of the Accident ; they may be able to put a Preventer for the future like Accidents : But, I say, instead of this proceeding, if there be a Letter writ, only known to the Captain, and there be another Ship ordered for him, and the other laid by, and the *King* damaged Five Hundred or a Thousand Pounds, and the Service impeded thereby ; Will any one think this a right Method ? But as for Examining, I had almost forgotten what I said, even now, That it must be Non-sense to expect the truth to be known, where such Dependances are upon Arbitrary Power : And therefore I conclude, it must be also the baneful Fruit of the foresaid Weed. I could instance many more Particulars, which are the true, and genuine Fruits of the said Weed ; but I suppose, by what hath been already said, will be sufficient proof of the unwholesomeness of him, and therefore fit to be rooted up.

Secondly,

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*Secondly*, I will descend to the particular standing Officers of this said Government, so called, for that they are Warranted by the *Admiralty*; for each Ship, during life, in case they commit no Misdemeanour worthy of their being turned out; and at the receipt of those Warrants they do, or ought to receive, also ample and plenary Instructions for the execution of their Offices, who are the *Purser*, *Boatswain*, *Gunner*, and *Carpenter*; unto whom are committed all the Stores of the said Ship, or Service; and for the securing, preserving, and laying the same up to be ready upon all minute Accidents for the said Service.

They by ancient Prescriptions and Customs have allotted them Appartments of the said Ship, proper for the same, *viz.* Cabins, Steward-Room, Store-Rooms, and Accommodations, and Avenues to the same, for themselves and their Instruments, to perform their respective Offices

Offices under them: Now if they be abridged thereof, *viz.* curtailed, lessened, or taken from them, at the Will of the Captain, it is not easie to judge, what Damages may ensue to the King and Service thereby: Unto which may be added, the Discomfiture by Losses the Officers may sustain; for they are accountable to the *King*, by way of Indentures signed for the same. As for Example.

*First*, The *Purser*, and no other Officer of the Ship, at his receipt of his Warrant, gives Bond to the *King*, with two sufficient Sureties, with a Penalty of Five Hundred Pounds, more or less, according to the Rate of the said Ship, which Bonds, in case of failure of his Duty, are certainly Estreated in the *Exchequer*, and Procese are issued out, for the Seisures of Body and Estates of him, or his Sureties, of what Estate soever they were possessed of, during the time of their being

Accomptants to the King: Now if the Instructions they receive for their Duties, be not sufficient to bear them harmless in the performance thereof; and that they be not consonant to the Captains, nay, nothing more contrary, or less observed in proceeding; How possibly can this Man be in any degree of safety, or Friends giving Pledge for him, let him be never so *good* an Officer? (I say none.)

But it is Answered, The Captain is answerable at the Determination of the Voyage, by the stoppage of his Pay; the which he is not to receive until he passes his Accounts, required by his Instructions, by giving in Journals of his Voyage, and Muster, and Checque-Books, and a Certificate from each standing Officer, that he hath not commanded any thing, during the Voyage, irregular; for which he hath a Clerk allowed him to perform for him; which Checque-Book the *Purser* sees not till a long time after,  
and

and may be ruined thereby ; and there is also added unto him, double Allowance of *Midshipmen's Pays* to each Rate, for him to dispose of, as I ere-whiles mentioned : All this being a late Invention, to bear the resemblance of a safe Method, for the *King*, and Sub-Officers ; yet it proves but as a *Shooing-Horn* to draw on more Charges to the *King* and Service, and as *Cobwebs*, in the behalf of the Officers, to bind a strong Man with : For it is an evident encrease of the *King's Charges*, and the maintaining more *Cooks*, which, according to the old Proverb, *Is a marring the Pottage.* And,

*Secondly*, For the binding him, it is on the quite contrary ; for it gives him the greater Latitude of Arbitrary Power and Command, to awe the Officer to Sign the said Certificate, and to comply to his, and his Creatures Pleasures, concerning the Stores, Books, and Proceedings of the Ships Accounts. I forbear Particu-

lars to instance more, there being room enough, by what hath been said, to guess: For before this Invention, by the antient practice of the *Navy*, he was liable, by the stoppage of his Pay, to answer the Complaints of his Officers, for his Irregular Commands; but this put him into more Despotical Power, to dispose of the Stores; and by a Dash of his Clerk's Pen, to ruine both the Officer's Voyage and Reputation, in case he Signs not such a Certificate as required: So that this also seems to me, to be a Fruit of the Weed aforesaid.

As for the *Purser's* Instructions formerly, and now, they are the same *verbatim*; but for the Observation of them, there remains nothing thereof, saving to pass his Accounts, the which he is forced to, by his triple Bond aforesaid; the which, if it were also omitted, the Laws, for all that are Accomptants to the *King*, to adjust, were sufficient Tyes for him:

So

So that the whole matter of his Instructions, as they are put in practice of late, since this new Invention, I will (not to descend to Particulars) bind them up together as useless; except it be to expose them to the Ridicule of the Captains and Lieutenants; and to be used when they have occasion to go into the Gallery.

Now, as I said, the *Purser* Indents for the *Provisions*, and issues the same by his Instruments; with which *Provisions*, he receives, or ought to do, an Allowance of Money, *viz.* Fourteen Pence *per Month*, for every Person in the Ship, to find *Candle, Wood, Cans, Platters, Spoons, Lanthorns, &c.* called Necessaries for the Ship; but the little or much Necessaries, *viz.* profuse Expences thereof, is at the Pleasure of the Captains and Lieutenants to command; and how that is of late managed, is too tedious for my intended Discourse: Also, what kind of respect the *Provisions* meet with in hoisting into

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the Ship, and Stowage of them, and of the Remains to be hoisted out, to be sent a Shoar to be preserved ; and *Cask-wood*, and what relates to his Stores, it going under the notion of the *Purser's*, he being bound to answer for it as before-said. I could say much therein, but I leave that to every Man to relate his own case, according as he finds his usage : But this I will say in general, That since the Project of the Captains being *Purfers*, have been promoted, both the *Purfers*, and their Instruments, have gone under great Scandal and Obloquy ; insomuch, that the *Purser* can get no Instruments, but at a dear and uncertain rate, to act under him, by reason of Ridicule and evil Treatment ; and I do moderately calculate it, That if the Captain had the Victualling, he would save of what is now profusely spent, and wasted malitiously with Sallaries, which the *Purser* pays, and Moneys he is constrained to spend, to soften Mens Morosities

ties towards his Affairs, that he might come to the less damages, sufficient recompence for a very good Officer for his Voyage: By means whereof, as it is now carried in the Offices at home, and Command abroad, that when he has past his Accounts, he will have nothing left to support his Family, or maintain him in his Old Age: I say, if he be an Honest and Upright Man in his Office, and do not Fawn, Flatter, and Trick it, and truckle to the Creatures he has to deal with, the which is now become his Fate; and therefore, I wish him to furnish himself with a well-tempered Disposition, *To be as Wise as a Serpent, and as Harmless as a Dove*; patient of Wrongs, a good Humour-monger; and carry a good *Mennstruum* in his Pocket, that will dissolve Morose, Obdurate, and Flinty Tempers; or else better Fortune, than to be cast into so ill a reputed, and disrespected an Office: All which Fate is befallen him, and

O 4 is

is an effect of that ill Weed I spake of come from *France*, and hath infected the *Naval Affairs of England* with a *Scurvey Disease*, and, if not in time cured, it may taint the Vital Spirits thereof; and render it to be decrepid, and of slow motion.

As to the *Boatswain*, he is an Officer that Indents for all the *Sails*, *Cables*, *Cordage*, and *Stores* of the Ship, and by the Captain's Hand to the Expence, passes his Account with the *Clerk of the Survey*: As doth also the *Carpenter* for the *Masts*, *Yards*, *Planks*, *Boards*, *Spikes*, *Nails*, and many Particulars: The *Gunner* with the *Officers of the Ordnance for the Guns*, *all sorts of Shot*, *Powder*, and many particular *Stores of Artillery*. Now heretofore, nay, yet it is in the *Purser's Instructions*, although I left them, even now, in the *Gallery*, for the Captains and Lieutenants uses: I say, the *Purser* was required, and did enter from time to time,

time, the Weekly Expences of both *Boat-swain*, *Gunner*, and *Carpenter's* Accounts into a *Ledger*; and drew a Monthly, or oftner Account for the Captain, and took the Captain, and Master's Hands, to whom the Expence was known, and Signed it himself, and gave it them to pass their Accounts by; but, I say, since the new Project aforesaid, it is useles, and the *Captain's Clerk* is instead of a Servant of the Captains; and by what hath been said before, may be easily guesfed, what safety in the Affair to the *King*, may be expected, and what dependance the Officers have, and on whom it is obvious.

Again, If the Ship happens to fall into great Action, as it often does, and that good Exploits are done, either for the Preservation of the Men and Ship, or in damaging the Enemy, the Practice therein hath been used of late, to take the full Relation of the said Action, from the

Cap-

Captains and Lieutenants Mouths, or Writings; and the other Officers are Mutes in that case; how easily then may the matter be represented, and the truth thereof either lie hid, and Honour and Rewards be placed unduly, and undeservedly, by Interest, or Influence of the Representers made, and instead of Rebuke for Misbehaviour, Honour and Reward, to the discouragement of the well-deserving; and the stifling of the truth of the Fact, from the knowledge of the *Admiral, Commander in Chief, Lord High Admiral, and Commissioners at home*: For it cannot be thought, that the Captains and Lieutenants have all the Eyes in the Ship that see, or all the Hands that act therein; but that other good Officers may be in the Ship, that may see that which they do not, and do that which they do not; for they have like opportunity with them, by their Speculations, Motions, and Conversings in their respective

spective Places and Duties; they having Eyes to see, and Hands to act with, more than two or three; and Converse through the whole Ship by themselves, their Mates, and Instruments.

Now upon any such extraordinary Occasions or Accidents, if there were a Commissioner of the *Navy*, in the Ports and Roads, or one deputed from the *Admiral* at Sea, (with the assistance of his Secretary,) who did go on Board the said Ship, and summon before him all the Officers of the said Ship, and take their Examinations; and if need be, their Depositions, to the Matters in question; and freedom for any one to come in and declare their knowledge of the Action; then may the truth be known, and a right Information be transmitted to the Superior Power, whether abroad or at home: For the Purposes before mentioned, which looks like direct proceeding, if it be solemnly done, but the contrary, is a Fruit of the former Weed.

Again,

Again, The Ships heretofore had not so great Accommodations for *Commanders*, as of late; for every Builder hath striven to exceed each other, in making Accommodations for the *Captains*; for which, it costeth the King no small Charges: Nay, I say, great Charges; yet that does not give content but rarely; for he is reckoned a Man of but small Invention, that cannot continue to make great alteration in the *Steeridge, Round-house, Cabins, Store-Rooms, &c.* and a great deal of Work for *Carpenters, Joyners, Painters, &c.* And as the Currant has run, scarce desir'd it of the *Commissioner*; but if he does, to be sure its never denied him; and these Alterations are sure to be the enlargement of their own *Accommodation*, and the *Abridgment* of others: Notwithstanding all the *Accommodations* he hath contrived by the *Builders*, ten to one, but he is to enlarge his *Store-Room*, and confines the *Steward-Room* into so small

small a Room, that it is a miserable place to handle the Ships *Provisions* in, from which proceeds no small damage; many times to the King in his *Provisions*, and also the *Purser*; and the *Cock-pit*, a Hellish Pit, to transact the most, and constant busines of the Ship; and by the thronging it with Cabins for Creatures, Boys, &c. that they are meerly choaked up: And to add to it, the *Steeridges* are generally taken away from the Officers, that they shall not Eat, nor Walk, nor Refresh themselves; the way going out of the *Steeridge* to the *Gun-Room* being totally shut up, and in divers, a Pantry contrived for the *Captains*; so that the Ship is made useless for a close Fight: For the *Communication* between the Decks, is shut up; and all that were wont formerly to go from the *Gun-Room*, and some *abaf* the *Mast*, up and down through the *Steeridge*, are all confined to go up and down at a small *Scuttle* without

206 **Naval Speculations** : Or,  
out the Steeridge, abaft the Mast ; where  
all are to pass and repass, with their hot  
Meat, Lame and Sick Men ; and in any  
Weather at Sea, the Boats hoisted in,  
Ports Caulked, and *Tarpallings* laid ; there  
is all the passage for the whole Ships Com-  
pany below the Deck, and all the Air  
can be spared them : Officers and all, if  
but a sudden Allarm of Weather, Acci-  
dent, or Enemy happen, you would bless  
your self to see Men tumble on one ano-  
ther's Backs, and a long while before got-  
ten up : No wonder if the Men fall sick,  
and Infections run from one end of the  
Ship to the other, and the *Provisions*  
Taint, and grow stinking : *Butter, Cheese,*  
and *Bread*, in a little time after received,  
prove unfit to be eaten ; *Pease*, and *Oat-*  
*meal* grow Musty, and the Men extream-  
ly stifled, for want of Air : If such things  
should have been done in *Blake, Lawson,*  
*Minns*, or any of the former *Commanders*  
*in Chief* their Times, they would soon  
have

have been turned to seek for Commands ; and for the Warrant Officers, they live more like Dogs ; I mean, *Spaniels* than Men, *For he, by Nature, Fawns on him that beats him* ; so ought a Warrant Officer to do, if the Cane of his Captain, comes over his Shoulders ; there is no better Remedy, than to be like the *Spaniel* : Nay, I am much mistaken, if Lieutenants scruple to strike a Warrant Officer, and that upon slight occasions : But I am now something in Passion on this matter, but I hold, and am really not desirous to expose the matter, but rather to cast a Mantle over it a while ; but if I had said nothing of it, I had said nothing to purpose ; but out of the whole bundle, I draw you these few Samples, by which you may know the rest ; and if I am not mistaken, the Officers must be pitiful small-soul'd Men, and know little, and cannot possibly be Men fit for their Employments, as they ought ; for they must acquire

208 **Naval Speculations:** Or,  
acquire their Offices, by those ways I for-  
merly told, and must have a Faculty of  
Lying, Fawning, Flattering, and Creep-  
ing to the Captains Servants ; for it's well  
if they be not too high for their Con-  
verse : I am sure they are better accom-  
modated, and have more quiet Enjoyment ;  
for they have the *Steeridge* and *Cabins* at  
large, and the Warrant Officers have no  
way to the Air from between Decks, but  
under the Lousie Hammocks, and Sick  
Bodies in the way, where the Men are  
hung in bundles, the Ports Caulked in, no  
breathing, but the Stench of one ano-  
ther : Abominable Proceedings, Inhu-  
man Command, and Preposterous Ma-  
nagement, and such as, I thought, I  
should never have lived to have seen an  
*English* Ship so governed , much more in  
general ; yet out of it some are to be ex-  
cepted, but too few. Also this smells rank  
of the said Weed.

Again,

Again, The Ship is furnished with Boats, *wiz.* *Barge*, or *Pinnace*, *Tawle*, and *Long-Boat*, according to the Rate of the Ship ; and it hath been meant formerly, that these Boats were to be serviceable to the Ship, and Company, in transporting them on Board, and on Shoar, with Necessaries, and Conveniences that may be wanted, for the Company, at the order and direction of the Captain : Now if such Commands are carried, that no Officer dare to ask, or expect to have a Boat, upon any urgent occasion, for the transporting himself, Stores, &c. in the execution of his Office, upon his reasonable Request, but must hire Boats : Nay, that an Officer cannot be carried on Shoar, or on Board, but slightingly refused, left behind the Ship, himself and Stores, and in Places and Times when Boats cannot be had for Love, nor Money : I mean, when the Practice is such, that his Superior shall declare it beneath him, to go

210 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
in Boat with his Officer ; or, that the  
Lieutenants shall be in their Commands,  
sleighting their Officers, and Mariners,  
for their Transports on Board, or on  
Shoar, with their Servants, and Necessa-  
ries, for their *reasonable Accommodation* ;  
and are thereby left behind, or put to  
great Shifts, and Charges therein ; and a  
general Disregard, and Disrespect shewed  
them before the Company : So that all  
the whole Series of the Command, in the  
Affairs of the Ship, runs upon hard terms,  
in sleighting, and Contemptible usage of  
Warrant Officers, the Particulars being  
too many to mention here ; all which are  
sprang up of late, in the practice of the  
*Sea Commands*, since the planting of the  
aforesaid Weed ; were it not a Protection  
of such *Imperial Commands*, to settle *Ar-*  
*bitrary*, and *Despotical Power at Sea*, as I  
have before shewed : It would not have  
found such a Harmony in so many of the  
*Commissioned Officers*, to act in so direct a  
Line

Line to the said Mark. But those *Babel-Builders*, as I said elsewhere, having been disappointed of their Designs, by God's Providence on the Nation, on Shoar, and the *Builders* divided and dispersed : So I doubt not, but that the *Navy* also, may feel the warmth of the Divine Favour, to dispel the *Sulphurous Vapours* of that noisome *Weed of Arbitrary, Despotical and Tyrannical Power*, and pack it away to the Frippery of those dark Regions of Lucifer's Kingdom, by whose *Contrivance*, and for whose *Dominion* it was only calculated and invented, ushered in by *Superstition*, and *Idolatry*; but to our *Sovereigns*, and their Kingdoms, God grant there be confirmed, a lasting *Monarchy*, Governing by wholesome Laws, Watered, and Pruned by multitude of Council, wherein there is safety; and never to root up the beautiful Plants, and Scions engrafted, and moistened with the Blood of our *Ancestors*,

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stors, viz. **The Fundamental Laws es-  
tablished in Church and State.**

Again, They being the essential parts of Government, viz. the *Civil*, as well as *Military*; which are both to be here respected; I mean, for Men to be kept in due obedience to the *Penal Laws* of the Nation; the Executor of which Laws, is the Captain: Now if he does not cause a strict Enquiry to be had, when *Robberies* and *Thefts* are committed on Board, Mens *Chests* broken up, their *Cloaths*, *Victuals*, *Moneys*, or *Goods* stollen from them; for it is a very hard matter to have a Search, (or dare any to accuse some Persons, because they are Favourites, or so far off) as the Favourite of a Favourite, because it is not easie for any one to bring his matter into proof, every one doubting, that it is not safe to give in Evidence against one that has favour: And in fine, my meaning is, when Justice is administered to the People at such a distance, and

at

at such hazard to receive it, that it were better to let it alone than to receive it ; that then *Theft, Robbery, Cosening, Cheating*, and all Wrongs to each other, must needs be very rife : As for Example.

If the Itinerant Judges of the Nation, should omit the Execution of their Offices in the *Circuits* ; as also the *Judicial Courts* aloft in the *Terms*, at their Pleasures ? What manner of Living, for safety of *Goods*, or *Lives* could be expected in such Government ? Will you say it is the *Captain's* Pleasure to remit the wrong done to *Tom* by *Jack*, and let the Offender go free ? By the same Rule, the Judge may pardon the Offender, that is accused of wrong done to his Neighbour : This is also a Fruit of the aforesaid Weed, and would be very unsavory to the Palates on Shoar : And why not on Board, I know not. But, as I said before, Justice ought to run down, as a mighty stream, that the meanest of the Ship may catch it in

214 **Naval Speculations** Or,  
their Caps at will ; nor do I believe, that  
the Captain hath power to dispence with  
any of the Punitive Laws of the Nation,  
provided against *Pettilarconies*, or *Thefts*,  
*Burglaries*, of Breaking, or Picking of  
Locks, *Pocket-picking*, *Cheating*, Borrow-  
ing and not Paying, but that falls more  
immediately under the Pay of the Ship ;  
but all things that may be executed at  
Sea, ought to be done by the Antient  
Laws and Constitutions of the *Seas*, and  
not to suspend the Execution thereof at  
the Captain's Will ; but if it be more  
proper to suspend the Execution thereof,  
till come to a *Flag*, or *Commissioners* a shoar,  
that then also, although it be not under  
his power, yet then he ought to bear  
such favour to Justice, as to defend the  
Innocent, and bring the Offender to  
Punishment ; that he should make it his  
business to become as an Advocate for  
the wronged Party. I say, where you  
find these Matters of Justice to be stopt  
in

in the Currents ; and, that Abuses, Robberies, Cheatings, Revellings, Brawlings, and Batteries, are frequently committed, and seldom taken notice of for redress, except to a Favourite : Nay, the very Provisions of the Ship, embezelled, and abused ; and many Enormous Outrages committed : And, I say, Redresses not freely, heartily, and indifferently administered ; that there you may see the plain Fruit of *Arbitrary Power*, and that *Commander* is glutted with it, and wants a strong Purge of the Extracts of *Abdication*.

Now, after the *Military* and *Civil Government* of the Ship, although worthy of Preference, yet it comes in here to bring up the Rear, *viz.* *Ecclesiastical Government*, the keeping the People to the due *Resort* to the *publick Service*, according to the Laws of the Nation ; and to observe as well the Neglecters thereof, through an *Atheistical*, *Debauched*, and

Irreligious Temper; as the Contemners, viz. *Roman Catholicks*, or lately so, and divers other *Opinions*, and *Perswasions*, and to bear such a respect towards every one of them, in their *Perswasions*, as is agreeable to the Laws of the Nation, by which he ought to Govern. And moreover, according as he finds the Practice of Their Majesties are towards *differing Perswasions*, in their Government, provided it be not against the Fundamental Laws of the Nation, so ought he to be consonant thereto in his Government; but on the contrary, if he shall favour *Roman Catholicks*, or those that were so lately, and keep them in his Favour, endeavouring to prefer them to Employments, or that he shall so dispose his Favours, that it ever tends to a particular Party, whatsoever it be that is repugnant to the Established Laws of the Nation; he does endeavour thereby, to introduce, foster, and nourish Division in the Fleet, and consequently

ly in the Nation, and doth not serve the Publick, according to the Compact and Conditiones he received his Commission upon, and thereto plights his Troth; but with that part of the Wealth and Strength of the Nation that he is intrusted with, does endeavour, what lies in him, to deceive his Employers; and causes their Money, &c. to be expended, contrary to their Wills, or Knowledge, to the Maintinance of theirs, and the Nations Enemies, *viz.* the Enemies of the Laws, which are the Enemies of the Nation; which is to *Tantamount* holding Correspondence, and disposing of the Treasure of the Nation to their Enemies.

Again, If the *Captain* be a *Drunkard*, *Swearer*, *Curser*, *Lyer*, *Cheater*, *Gamer*, *profuse Spendthrift*, *Riotous*, *Reviler*, *Libidinous Whore-monger*, or *Flagitiously wicked*, where any, or many of these, or the like Sins, are eminently found in him, his Service cannot be good; and also his

Ex-

Examples are very taking to the Officers, and *Mariners* in general; and more especially, where *Despotical Power* is exercised: For it has been an Observation made on the Lives of the *Cæsars*, That in the Life of *Augustus*, he made Learned Men to flourish, and the Empire to abound with them; *Tiberius* his Successor, made the Empire to abound with Debauched Persons, Sycophants, and Villains; *Trajan* with grave Men, and good Soldiers; so likewise here a Debauched Captain can never expect a sober Ships Company, and the like of all other Vices: So that, I say, the Example of a Commander in the Government of the Ship, carries with it as great Imitation, as any thing I know.

Again, How can it be expected, that a Captain that Swears at a shameful rate, and Damns at every Sentence almost, can command, according to the antient Government of the Navy, or the present Laws

Laws of the Nation, which puts me in mind of some old ways of Government in these things; *viz.* Any Man that was found to be Drunk, the *Gunner* had a certain Shoulder-Belt, kept for that purpose, and he was to wear it, until there was another found in the same fault, who should take it off him; but it was not at all pesting, for if he wore it often, and much, it was a blot to his Reputation, and a clog to his Preferment: Also a Swearer, when taken, had a Ridiculous Cap, which was his lot to wear, till he caught another in the same fault: Also for a Lyer, there was found one or two who had told Lyes, and on proof, they were hoisted up on the main Stay, with Brooms, Buckets, and Shovels tyed to them, and all the Ships Company crying out, *A Lyer, a Lyer, &c.* and for that fault they were to Swab, and make clean such parts of the Decks all that Week; or until others were found; but if the Swearer

220 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
er now were to wear the Cap, or the  
Drunkard the Belt, where Swearing is u-  
sed most by the Officers, beginning from  
the *Captain*, to the *Cook*, and Men, from  
the *Midshipman*, to the *Swobber*; Drun-  
kleness, unclean and filthy talk of Who-  
ring, boasted of openly before the Ships  
Company, and by the Officers, and as  
well allowed of; nay, better than a So-  
ber, Temperate, Honest, and good Be-  
haviour. Now if any of these Practices  
are in any of Their Ships, I know, and  
am sorry to speak it, That for many  
Years past, that not only the *Navy*, but  
the Nation in general, hath had a vein of  
Debauchery running through it at a pro-  
digious rate, not one Vice only, but all  
Vices, from the *Cardinal's* Vice, to the  
*Parish Priest*; from the *Peer*, to the *Pea-  
sant*: And all these Abominations were  
brought amongst us, by like Policies, as  
the *Moabites* did to the Children of *Israel*,  
by the Advice of *Balam*, to commit wick-  
edness

edness with their Women, and anger the Lord; so was this no less a design contrived at *Rome*, That finding they could not shake the *Church of England*, by dint of Argument, nor undermine it by secret maintaining of Heresies and Schisms within her Bowels ; this third Project of *Balaam* is tried, with the pleasures of Wickedness, of the most flagitious and sinfullest Nature ; nay, both Prince and Prelate, that Religion was as little practised, as meant, in any Matters ; nay, it was rather a Subject for Ridicule : This did go near, and bid for the Mark, having effeminated, and destroyed the Prowess, good Methods, and Government of our Armies, by Sea, and Land, and shook even the Pillars of the Church. Wherefore, I think, it may be high time to apply a Remedy to this foul Disease, insinuated, and dispersed as well into the *Navy*, as Land, that the Nation do not lie under God's Interdict, for their former

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222 **Naval Speculations:** Or,  
mer Pollutions spoken of; for *Israel* had  
a smart Scourge sent them, for being ta-  
ken with *Balam's Device*: So hoping as  
well the *Navy*, as the *Land*, may re-as-  
sume their Pristine Order, Government,  
and Innocence, and then may we hope  
God's Judgments may be averted for  
what is past.

But before I take leave on Ship-board,  
I will entertain you with a short Dia-  
logue, between the four standing Offi-  
cers, *viz.*

Jack Purser, Tom Boatswain, Ralph  
Gunner, and Stephen Carpenter.

Enter Purser.

**H**ow is't, Brother Tom, to day, af-  
ter your Quarter-Deck Lecture?

Boatsw. Heart-whole still, for that will  
not easily break, though my Young Lieute-  
nant's Cane fell pockily upon the string on't.

Purf.

Purſ. But how came it to pass? Prithee tell me, Tom.

Boatswain. Thus: As I was ſitting upon that Step, the Captain's Raft of Boys, playing in the Steeridge, came thundering out of the Door over me, and over-set me Horse and Foot, with my Victuals in my hand; you know, I durſt not go in and ſit down to eat my Victuals, for there stands a Centinel with a drawn Sword, to keep us out, and another with a flaming Blade at the great Cabin-door; ſo I recovered up, and took one of them a Lick or two, with this little Rod, he happened to be the Young Lieutenant's half-pay Man, but I knew it not; he ſeeing it off the Quarter-Deck, came to me ſaying, Sirrah, How dare you strike that Fellow? And paid me double, I faith, and called me all to nought beſide.

Purſ. Ha, I'm ſorry; But wont you complain to the Captain on't?

Boatsw.

Boatsw. You know enough of that, so I may have as much more; remember your Steward t'other day, for denying the Captain's Boys Candle to play at Cards with.

Carp. You may remember, Purser, your self, how you were treated but last Week, for bidding the Cooper deliver no more Pease, nor Oatmeal for the Captain's Sheep, and Fowls, till that was spent; I lookt for the Strappado on you, but, I think, the Cooper bore the more for that time: Prithee Gunner, Why doſt Scrub ſo? Art Lousie?

Gunn. Faith, very Lousie, going up and down this Scuttle, under the Hamocks, and the poor Men hang fo thick, that I cannot pass, and the Men are stifled for want of Air: Purser, Are not you Lousie?

Purſ. Faith, never fo Lousie in my life; and we are choaked all in the Cock-pit, the ſteem of the Hold, for want of paſſage up the Steeridge way, kills us: I cannot endure my Cabin, for the Men come fo thick

thick down, and the Room is so strait, that we cannot turn; for you know, the Captain's Store-Room, is half the Cock-pit.

Carp. You know, I was forced to enlarge it thither, least I should have my Pate broke, and do it afterwards.

Purſ. I cannot tell where to go and breath a little; come let's go down to the Gunner's Cabin, there's a little Air; I'll make a Can of Flip, Boys.

Gunner. Faith, I'm a most afraid of your coming there; for you know, the Captain's Coffin is in the Gun-room side Cabin, and it will be carried up to the Captain, that we are all together: Whist, This is one of the Captain's Servants stands and hearkens to us; come hang it, let us go down Tom, Stephen. A Nod.

Purſ. Send your Boy for a Can of Beer, Gunner, I'll bring t' other things.

Boatsw.

Boatsw. But how com'st thee off, Stephen? I heard that you was sent for up to the Eldest Lieutenant, for not making a Locker aloft for their Boys.

Carp. Faith, Tom, I gave sugary Words, and came off better than I did a Fortnight agoe, for not making his Boy a hanging Cabin in the Cock-pit; he gave me a scurvy drub or two, and a curse or two at the end on't.

Gunn. Faith, I am heartless; here's no hopes of comfort in this Voyage; I was never so cast down in my life: For I hoped that this Voyage would have mended our Lives; and now, I'm out of hopes, altho'gh the Captain says little, yet he leaves the Lieutenants too rampant over us: Gentlemen, our dancing Days are over, I see it grows worse and worse; 'tis not us alone, but I hear it a Board of most Ships, I speak with: Would to God, I had been a Tayler, Tinker, any Trade to get my Living on Shoar with; for the Navy Employment,

viz.

viz. Warrant Officers are turned to a Vassalage unsufferable: Well, I'm resolved to find some way to live on Shoar.

Purs. Here, Tom, Health, and a good Arrival at Portsmouth, I'm resolved as soon as I can wind up my Bottoms; I'll leave the Sea. Cheer up, Lads.

Carp. Well, I lived a better life with my Adds on Shoar, than I do here, and saw more merry days in a Week, than I shall in a Month at Sea, as things are now: I was born to work, and so I do here, but no content; the Egyptian Bondage was not worse, I believe.

Purs. Why truly, Gentlemen, the Navy is come to a bad pass; happy is that Man that hath but a Morsel to eat at home in quiet: Since I've known the Navy, there was some comfort in our Lives at Sea, and a Warrant Officer had some Countenance from the Captain, and would often eat and drink with them; but now they are Pif upon by every Body: Well, I'll take care

Boatsw. But how com'st thee off, Stephen? I heard that you was sent for up to the Eldest Lieutenant, for not making a Locker aloft for their Boys.

Carp. Faith, Tom, I gave sugary Words, and came off better than I did a Fortnight agoe, for not making his Boy a hanging Cabin in the Cock-pit; he gave me a scurvy drub or two, and a curse or two at the end on't.

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viz.

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228 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
for one, shortly; our Drink is done, and  
so Farewel, before we be ill represented to  
the Captain, for this meeting: Exit.

Thus having run through the Affairs of  
the *Naval* strength of the Nation, with a  
swift motion, as I promised, not daring  
to tarry longer upon it, lest my Ink should  
gall, and fret it; but my Application and  
Intention, being only as a Balsamick  
Oyntment; and therewith to stroak it  
gently, to heal it of the Scurf and Taint,  
that it hath been lately infected with, by  
that Infernal Weed so often mentioned  
before.

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VIII. Of

**VIII. Of the Seminary for Breeding,  
and Maintaining of Seamen.**

1. *The Chest.*
2. *The providing for the Poor Male Children of the Nation.*
3. *The Encouragement of Fishery.*
4. *Merchants Employments.*

**T**H E Navy, as I have said before, by which we must gain, and maintain our antient Rights of the Dominion of the *Narrow Seas*, &c. will require a settled Policy; as for the Government thereof; so also for the Breeding, and Maintaining of *Marriners*, and *Maritime People*; such a Policy, as shall produce a sufficient number of the product of the People of the Nation, by a kind of willing

230 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Constraint, to addict themselves to *Maritime Lives*; I say, sufficient for the encrease of our Power at Sea; and to supply the places at all times of those that the Wars and Accidents thereof, shall from time to time consume.

*First*, The *Chest*, being an old Provision, or Policy devised, and enacted in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, whose Memory may never be forgotten in this Land; not only for settling and confirming the *Protestant Religion*; but by putting the Nation into such a posture of Military Defence both by Sea and Land; by building of *Ships*, *Docks*, *Forts*, *Castles*, &c. and providing of *Artillery* and *Munitions* for War, that this Land hath not only defended themselves against the shocks of War, made by most of the Potent Princes, upon it, abroad: Notwithstanding the often Rebellions in *Ireland*, and Jars of *Scotland*, near two third parts of the now *British Dominions*, giving her con-

continual Diversions at home; yet by the Divine Assistance, with good Counsellors, Publick, and Heroick Spirited, Just, and Wise Leaders, and Commanders, and a Consentaneous, Agreeable Disposition in all her Subjects together, for the end desired, viz. To maintain their Sovereign, Religion, and Laws from being Conquered, or Imposed upon by any, or all the Princes of *Europe*; notwithstanding they were destitute of Allies to assist them; but on the contrary, gave often Assistance, and Succours to the *Dutch* and *French Protestants*: I say, notwithstanding all these great Rubs, she defended this Island, not only from any great Exploits done on her; but scoured the Seas, and carried the War into her Enemies Countries, to her eternal Fame, and their no less Shame: The Particulars of which are easily gathered out of the Histories of her Life, and the Monuments of her; as, *Castles*, *Forts*, *Ships*, *Artillery*, and *Military*

**Naval Speculations:** Or,  
*literary Provisions* remaining, with us, to  
this day, will witness; the Memory of  
whom, and the Actions of whose days, I  
cannot let pass, without mentioning: *viz.*  
She came to the Crown in a time when  
the Nation was fresh bleeding of the  
Wounds given them by their most cruel,  
and bloody Enemies; beside which  
Wounds, it was inwardly sick of *Male-  
contents*; and the Extream Parts, *viz.*  
*Ireland*, and *Scotland*, so gangren'd, that  
it had been more happy for her, they had  
not been: At which time, I say, God  
gave them a Soveraign, that with his Di-  
vine Assistance, &c. bound up their  
Wounds, and healed their Sicknes in  
Church and State; in comparison of  
which Time and Opportunity, I think it  
very proper to bring in our Soveraigns;  
yet, I hope, not from a Temper of an ill-  
boding Prophet, to forewarn us, to pre-  
pare for some long time of *Maritime Con-  
tentions*, believing, That before the Seas  
will

will be again settled in Peace, there may be many hard Tugs; but between what Nations, I guess not: But, I say, that both the *Dane*, and *Swede* are Arming to put in their Sickles for a Harvest; beside *Dutch*, *French*, *Spaniard*, and *Portugues*. As in a Brawl, Riot, or Breach of the Peace, whosoever pretends to preserve the Peace of that place, or would preserve himself, and have a Rule and Dominion there, he ought to be of greater strength than the Rioters, or else he were better to hold his Peace, and keep farther off, lest the said Rioters shall do, as I have known, in divers Frays; many have joined upon one, whose design was only to part them: Wherefore, I say, we pretending a Right and Dominion in the *Narrow Seas*; and being, by God Almighty, so advantageously seated, as if he intended our Island to be the Husband of these *Northern* and *Western* Seas, from the *Baltick*, to *Cape-Finister*, and by a properer Dominion,

and

and Right to be Married to her every Year, than the *Venetian* has to be Married to the *Gulf of Venice*, and those Seas, as they are in solemn manner; the which Mistress, if we neglect to pay our due Visits, and suffer her to be Careless, or evil entreated by others, we may lose her Affection, and ever after may Court her in vain for a Smile, to our eternal loss, and shame, and not to be too sparing of our Monies in Treating her, like the *Constantinopolitans*, when the *Turk* Besieged it; the Emperour went about praying them to spare him Money to pay his Soldiers to defend it; who excused themselves, that they had it not: But when the *Turk* took it, he found enough to pay his Men therewith.

It is high time now to return to the *Chest*, settled in the said Queens Reign: which is, That every Warrant Officer, and Sea-man, in the Service, has deducted out of his Pay, Six-pence *per Month*,

by

by the *Pay-master* of the *Navy*, who pays the same to so many, *viz.* *Pursers*, *Boat-swains*, and *Gunners*, (of the First Rates, commonly,) in all, I think, five, who are new chosen yearly, and are called *Governours* of the *Chest*; who have their Annual Meetings, to adjust their Accounts with their *Receiver*, or *Clerk*; and to appoint the *Gratuities* they allow for Smart-Money, what they shall think good to allow a Man either at that instant, and an Annual Pension during life, or according to his Wound, or Loss, only to give him a Summ, and no Pension: I say, that present Money is called *Sinart-Money*, and the other a *Pension*. Now they are a *Corporation* by Act of Parliament, with power to buy or sell Land, &c. They have also, a *Supervisor*, who is most commonly a *Commissioner* of the *Navy*: And moreover, the *Lord High Admiral*, or *Commissioners* of the *Admiralty*, hath a Superseding Power over them; an excellent

lent Policy; for if a Man loses a Limb, he receives six Pounds thirteen Shillings four Pence Yearly, for his Life, and one Year at entrance, for Smart-Money: The whole Man, that hath paid his Six-pences all his Life, and never received any, may bless God that he never came under that Circumstance; and he that does, may also bless God for raising the said Queens Heart to make that Provision for him to support his Needs. I have not a mind to find Fault with the Management, nor have I heard much cause for it; but I do not admire the giving of Salaries to *Chirurgeons* abroad, to certify, &c. whereas the Parties aggrieved, would find of the Officers that are Witnesses of the Chance, enough to let them know the truth thereof, and not Persons interested in their Cure a Shoar, and never saw the Mischance. I will say no more, but thus, That the best Constituted Policies that ever yet were in the World; nay, go so high

high as God's Church, they are Humane, and Servants, or rather Subjects to time, which corrupts, and rusts the most durable things ; and therefore, for its perpetuation, it must undergo some time of cleansing away the Corruptions ; after which, it may re-assume its pristine Vigour and Beauty. So, I say, if the Navy may undergo a cleansing, and scouring, so may this also, *viz.* of the right Channels in the first Act and Institution thereof, and pare off all evil, by Orders, or by Constitutions crept in as by Allowances of Wages, and Sallaries to *Receivers, Pay-masters, Clerks, Chyrurgeons, &c.* Sale of Lands, and Rents, and make due Elections, and also for due accounting with the *Pay-master* : Although I accuse not, yet it is not to be doubted, That Corruptions have not failed to be here also ; and therefore, I do heartily recommend it to the Inspection of the *Supervisors, and Visitors* of the same : And for an encrease

238 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
crease of the Revenue, That whereas of  
late Years, the Ships of small Comple-  
ments seldom have Chaplains to supply  
the place, that those Groats are ordered  
for the *Chest*: I confess, for some time be-  
fore, that Money was begged of the King,  
by some Navy Officers; I think, as odd  
a sort of Request, as Gift, to beg the  
Money stopt out of Mens Pay, to enrich  
them; but now it goes to the *Chest* to re-  
lieve the Limbless, and Maimed Sailer,  
from whom it is taken.

I say no more, but that if the Ships,  
which are fitted out only for the Chanel,  
had no Chaplains put on Board them, save  
some in the Flags, and only the Allowance  
of the Chaplains Eighteen Shillings *per*  
*Month*, be given to one, whom the Cap-  
tain, or majority of Officers shall chuse  
to read Prayers, and do the Offices for  
the Dead; the said Eighteen Shillings *per*  
*Month*, added to his other Pay, would  
be a sufficient Recompence for the same;  
but

but any that goes out of the Chanel, should have Chaplains, and they able, as I said before: But in the Chanel, there is the greatest Ships, and most Money given away, and for the least purpose, for very seldom have they Opportunities for other than Prayers, and that rarely, for they are either coming in, or going out, heaving, working, or coming to Anchor, or bad Weather in the Chanel; so that I say, the use of such Missions serves to a very little purpose, *viz.* to instruct Men to a Godly Life. For the Prayers, I spake before of, would amount to as much, and many poor maimed Men be relieved with the same, the which is no small Sums in the great Ships, which are in the Chanel; but when Ships are to go on a Foreign Voyage, they should never go without able Men.

Secondly, To Provide for the Poor Male Children of the Nation, That is, a great part of the product of the People of the

Na-

**Royal Speculations:** Or,  
Nation are poor People, who are not  
able to provide for the Fruit of their  
own Bodies; so that in the Reign of the  
said good Queen *Elizabeth*, was devised,  
and enacted a Law for an equal Tax to be  
raised from all Estates, Personal, and Re-  
al, for the Relief of the Poor; and  
therein prescribed a Method to keep the  
Poor on work, to avoid their being idle  
and useless in the State; that they might  
not live in Idleness, and Looseness at the  
charge of their Neighbours, which part  
of the Law took so little effect, that two  
*Workhouses* were used but of a general  
pity to the Poor, which made that defect;  
so that of that Act, only one part took ef-  
fect, viz., the poor were provided for in  
their Wants, which fell upon them by  
Converting the Lands of the Monasticks;  
and Recluses, into Lay Possessions, on  
which depended great numbers of People,  
Poor, and Idle; but for that part which  
was to provide for their Idleness, that  
they

they might not live useless, and burthen-some Members of the State, took, I say, no effect; but that they, and their Children also, bred up in the said Idle Life, are generally Heirs of their Parents Poverties; by which they are constant shakers of their Neighbours Estates, and Labours, and are of no more use to the State, than by their generally fruitful Procreations, and serve to people the Nation; of which there is great want, considering the Situation, Product, and Manufact thereof, sufficient to afford Maintenance, and Employnient for five times the number; and especially upon the Seas, to Employ five times the number, which would Employ, and Maintain ten times the number on the Land.

Now that there might be a kind of willing Constraint (if I may say so) on the People, to addict themselves to *Maritime Lives*, which might produce the effect of producing *Seamen*, and encreas-

R sing

242 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
sing our *Maritime* strength: If there were  
a Law enacted, that every *poor Boy* of a  
Patent, that receives Alms from the Pa-  
rish, shall, at the Age of Fourteen Years,  
be brought to the Sheriff of every Coun-  
ty, with an Indenture made by a Justice  
of Peace, and Bound to the King, until  
he comes to the Age of Twenty four  
Years, as the former Law directs; which  
Sheriff shall cause a Pass to be made, and  
convey them from Parish to Parish, at the  
Country's Charges, to *London*, to a gene-  
ral Hospital, *viz.* at *Greenwich*, the great  
new House that stands void there, it  
might soon be fitted into an excellent ge-  
neral Hospital; where should be Officers  
appointed to keep them, *viz.* a Superan-  
nuated *Captain*, to Command the House,  
a *Purser*, to Victual them, with Petty-  
Warrants from the *Victualling-Office*; a  
*Boatswain*, *Gunner*, and *Carpenter*, all  
Superannuated Officers; each to take a  
Squadron of them under their care, to

go

go with them, and Employ them in the Yard at *Deptford*, to serve the *Caulkers*, and such Work as *Boys* may do ; and to have *Junk* to the House, and pick *Oakam* there, and dry it ready for all the Yards ; and some of them that are fit to be taught, there, to Write, and Read, and learn *Navigation* ; to be divided, and ordered into Squadrons, by the said *Captain*, and lodged in Beds, and Hammocks, as if on Board ; and also, at every one of the King's-Yards, let there be a proportionable Hospital provided to keep a convenient number of them, to be sent from the general Hospital from time to time, as they shall dispose of them, *viz.* all the King's Officers Warranted, that have Servants allowed them, if there be Servants in these Hospitals, should take of them ; to be Turn'd-over, with their Indentures, and bound to them by the *Commissioner* of the place, who shall serve them in the full of their Indenture made to the King ;

244 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
also at the general Hospital, should be a  
*Commissioner of the Navy*, whose parti-  
cular Station shall be to oversee the same,  
and by his Clerk enter all the Names in a  
general *Entry-Book*, and dispose them to  
their Places, Yards, &c. keeping a fair  
*Ledger* of their Names, Places, Whence,  
Time, Whither Disposed, and When;  
and also shall at their *Matriculation*, or  
Entrance, cause on one of their Arms to  
be made a Mark in the Skin, with Pow-  
der, that may never be gotten out, viz.  
a *K*, or what other Letter may be thought  
good, to signify whose Servants they are,  
in case they should desert their Service;  
that it should be a damage sufficient to  
any one that entertains them, to deter  
them from it.

I do herein but mark out the rough  
Lines of this Projection, which must be  
amply Polished by the Act of Parliament,  
and by the *Admiralty*, to methodize it: It  
would be too tedious for me here; beside,  
it

it would be Presumption in me, to light a Candle to the Sun.

I will only hint a few things necessary thereto, viz. if such Orders were, That no *Merchant Ship* shall go to Sea, but shall receive of the said *Commissioner*, to every Six or Ten Persons the Ship shall carry, one of these *Boys*; they to bring their Certificate for their clearing, as from the *Custom-house*, so from the *Commissioner* of this Affair; and at their return, to give the said *Commissioner* an Account of what is become of the *Boys*, and return them, and pay, or Account with the *Commissioner* for the time they had served them, at the rate of so many Shillings per Month, as they are Years old; and if the *Commissioner*, and *Master* does agree, then he to take him for the King's Term; or else the *Commissioner*, upon the receipt of his Wages, out of which he is to allow for Cloaths, in the Voyage, not exceeding Five Shil-

246 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,  
lings *per Month*, to order him elsewhere ;  
Cloathing him with the remainder, and  
dispose of him without further Charge  
to the *King*, if possible : So that after  
the time he is so put abroad, whatsoever  
Money he clears at his return, he must  
have an *Account*, *Debtor*, and *Creditor*,  
kept for him ; so that he must either clear  
so much, as the *King* hath been at Charges  
with him, at five Pence *per diem*, which  
*Account* he must clear, before he receives  
a Certificate from the said *Commissioner*,  
that he is Manumised, or cleared the Ser-  
vice : And in the mean time, if he serves  
any other Master, and produces not the  
said Certificate of his Manumisement, the  
said Master is chargeable with the said  
Wages, all, except so much as he hath re-  
ceived in Cloaths, which must not exceed  
five Shillings *per Month* ; and what he  
shall have gained beyond his Charges,  
should also be justly paid him at his Ma-  
numisement, Moreover, all the *King's*  
*Officers*

Officers that shall take them for the whole Term, should pay for one Boy Ten Pounds, and receive them at Sixteen Years Old; which Moneys should be stopt out of his Pay; for every one that wants Servants, hath not Ten Pounds to lay down, which Servants shall be paid Wages by the King, to his Master, for every Year they shall serve of the Indenture, so many Shillings *per Month*, as they are Years Old; which Servants will be better to the Officers, than such as they can get themselves; for they never need fear the running away of them; if they run, they are to be found easily, by their Marks, that they cannot deceive any one that Entertains them; the said Officers having the same Right to gain them again with their Wages, for their absent time, as the King hath for such as he puts abroad to Merchant-men: The same Privileges to all Carpenters, Caulkers, Rope-makers, &c. that shall take any of them: So that eve-

ry one will covet to take the King's Servants, for the certainty of them; and they well consequently prove better Servants, knowing they cannot shift their Services; And also there should be a Respect had to them in the Service, during their Indentures, by the *Commissioners*, to see them not wronged by their Masters: And also at the end of their Indentures, or before, according to their Deserts, they should be preferred.

Now every Parish that hath not one *Boy*, to send to the *King*, should be joyned to the next adjacent Parish, for the relief of their *Poor*, who sends above two *Boys* Yearly, as aforesaid; this to be done by the Justices of the Peace, in their respective Divisions, and every Overseer, and Church-warden of every Parish, shall at every petty Sessions, at one set time in the Year, produce, to the said Justices, a Receipt from the Sheriff, of the *Boys* delivered the Year past, with the Names, and

and Ages of the said Boys ; and also, the said Sheriff shall, at the passing his Accounts for his Year, deliver into the Exchequer, a true Roll, or List, in Parchment; of the Boys sent that Year, containing the Age, Name, and Place of Abode, of the said Boys ; and when, and whither sent, with the *Commissioner's* Receipt for them, which should be transacted, by a Post Letter of Advice to the *Commissioner*, when he sends, which should be answered by the *Commissioner*, whether received, or not.

In the said Roll, given into the *Exchequer*, their Names should be set Alphabetically, for easie finding them ; which should be there filled up, and kept safe, to be examined by any one that shall enquire after any Boy, viz. their Parents, Relations, Friends, &c. who may have liberty to redeem them out of the Service, paying so much for every Year the King has been at Charges with them, by Methods ordered ; for some may have Estates

250 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
states fallen to them, or Parents: And also, once every Year, the *Commissioner* at the *General Hospital*, shall by his Clerk, transmit into the *Exchequer*, a fair *Ledger Book* of all the *Boys* entred, and sent out that Year, from whence received, and to whom bound out; that a good Account may be had thereof, when desired: Also the Justices of the Peace, at the Binding the *Boys* to the *King*, should take care, that he binds none that are not found in Body; and for his guidance therein, should receive a Presentment, signed by the *Minister*, *Church-wardens*, and *Overseers of the Poor* of that Parish, containing the Age, Name, and place of Abode, and soundness of Body and Limbs of the said *Boy*, and that they desire may be received into the *King's Service*, according to the said Act; and if it may be, let the Parent, if alive, or nearest of Kin, sign it also. I say, I do only hint the matter, and will hereto add, That the Be-

Benefits hereby, would be in a greater degree than I can set forth, and be of little purpose to endeavour; it would only serve to lengthen my Discourse, and yet come short of every Intelligent Man's Reasons, which they may collect out of their more large *Speculations*. Wherefore I only affirm, That within Ten, nay Seven Years, would be added to our *Naval Strength* many Thousands of good and able *Mariners*, and *Artificers*, and would be an ever-living *Seminary* thereof; and for their constant Employment, both in *War*, and *Peace*, I shall (God willing) shew in the Sequel.

### Thirdly, *The Encouragement of Fishery.*

By the *Fishery*, I understand, this Nation had thier first introduction to their *Maritime Growth*, and together with their large *Drapery*, or *Wollen Manufactures*, not omitting their Acquisitions by Trade  
in

252 **National Speculations**: Or,  
in the *West-Indies*, and also the *East*; all  
which, and especially the former, and the  
latter, are now suffering under a very  
great declension. As for the latter, I can  
say little as yet; but the former I will  
say it is in our power yet to regain by  
these means following.

I. That a great reason of our decay of  
*Fishery*, is our laying aside the Observation  
of *Lent*, upon the Account of a Religious Observation; the which, I fan-  
tise to be a general mistake; for the Insti-  
tution thereof was never in *England*, up-  
on any other than a Politick Account; al-  
though the Church, according to the  
Primitive Examples, hath advised all in  
her Community, to keep some certain  
Days in the Week of Abstinence, from  
the more liberal Feeding, for the easier  
subduing of Carnal Concupiscence, and  
casting up their Errors of the Week, and  
chiefly on Friday, the Day of our Savi-  
our's Suffering; so once in the Year, for  
the

the whole Years Account, and according unto Primitive Institution, and in Imitation, or Example of our Saviour's Forty Days Abstinence in the Wilderness, setting it at the time of the Year in preparation to the Celebrating the Commemoration of that great Work of our Saviour's, *The Redemption of Mankind*, at the *Passover*, or *Paschal-Feast* of the Jews; so with us, the Feast of *Easter*, at which time she advises all her Disciples, to receive the *Holy Communion*, in a more *Particular*, and *Universal Communion*, and *Conjunction*; and Invites, at that time especial-  
ly, the *Catechumene*, or *Younger Christians*, to enter into the said *Communion*: yet notwithstanding, I say, I do not find by the Constitutions of the *English Church*, that she denounces any *Judgments*, or *Excommunications*, for the non-observance of the said *Lent*, or *Days of Abstinence*; but by way of Request, and Advice there-  
to, for their better preparation for the

254 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
the receiving that most Holy Sacrament; but he which thinks it no means towards  
it, may not observe it, but may be under  
a mistake; and he which thinks it may be  
a means, may observe it, and may be in  
the right: Yet to learn of the Apostle,  
*Him that eateth not, not to despise him that eateth; and him that abstaineth not, not to despise him that abstaineth*: But, I hope,  
no Religious Man will deny, but that  
Days of Abstinence, and general Publick  
Fasts, are useful Preparations to Holy  
Duties; yet so I take it, That it is the  
Civil Pollicy of the Nation that enjoyned  
the keeping of *Lent*, upon the Account  
of encouraging the Trade of *Fishery*, to  
advance the *Naval Strength*, in the en-  
creasing of *Maritime People* for the taking  
it, and the supporting of *Navigation*, and  
promoting of Foreign Trade, by the  
Transporting it abroad into other Coun-  
trys, where it is acceptable, and for the  
encrease of *Cattle, Fowl, &c.*

Now

Now the common Objections, are these two :

First, That it is the Relicks of *Popery* and *Superstition*.

It is Answered already, That the *Church* makes no necessity for the *Religious Observation* thereof.

The Second is, That our plenty of Flesh requires no preservation, &c.

I Answer, That the Season of the Year is such, that there is not so great plenty of Flesh at that time of the Year, as at others, which Flesh generally is Calves and Lambs, who if they were more sparingly slain for those few Days, after which they would be more mature, and better Meat, and some more would escape the Slaughter, and before Breed; and instead thereof we should feed, in some of the Interim on Fish, which would be Encouragement, and Maintainance of *Fishermen*, and *Seamen*; who are themselves to be fed all the rest of the Year, by their Provisions

256 Naval Speculations: Or,  
ons for their other Voyages from the  
Land, which would take up far greater  
Quantities of the Product of the Nation,  
*viz.* Mault, Beefs, Mutton, Bread, But-  
ter, Cheese, and Pease, Oat-meal, and all  
manner of Cloathing; for one of these at  
Sea, spends thrice the value of the afore-  
said Products, with Manufacts of Cloath-  
ing, Ship, and Tackle, than a *Country-*  
*man*, or *Husband-man* doth; and, I say,  
be a far more Consumption of the Pro-  
duct, and Manufact of the Nation, than  
the slaying for those few Days will cause.  
And moreover, be the answering the main  
end now in hand, *viz.* The increasing  
of our *Maritime Strength*, and promo-  
ting *Navigation*, for the more large Ex-  
portation of our Manufacts, to our great  
enriching, and security from our Enemys  
abroad, and to the every way procuring  
the Strength, Wealth, and Happiness of  
the Nation: To which, if it were need-  
ful, might be added a grear deal more, to

Invite

Invite the practice thereof, against those groundless Exceptions of debasing the price of Lands ; but it is sufficiently answered, in the forgoing, to all reasonable Men : Therefore I only add this one, That we should be capable to fill the *Empories* abroad, with the product of our *Seas*, and grasp a better part of the *Foreign Trade*, which, of late Years, hath been grasped from us, which may prove to our Enlargement, and a stop to their Progress ; the which is a more justifiable Proceeding, before *God*, than *Arms* ; and more suitable to the practice of the Servant in the *Gospel*, who managed his *Ten Talents*, to the gaining of *Ten more* ; which intituled him to the *Large bone*, &c.

Fourthly, As for the *MERCHANTS EMPLOYMENTS*, for the advance of *Sea-men*, and to avoid the great Trouble, Charges, and Abuses in *Pressing of Men*, which hath so little effect ; I have said something

S alrea-

258 *Royal Speculations*: Or,  
already in their carrying of the King's  
Boys. Now if all Merchant-men, who  
are bound to any Foreign Parts, should at  
their clearing, at the *Custom-house*, leave a  
List of their Ships Company, containing  
the true Names, and Sir-names, and places  
of their usual Residence, Ages, &c.  
of the Master, and Ships Company, whither bound,  
and when cleared the *Custom-house* ; and also at their entrance of the  
*Ships* into the *Custom-house* upon their re-  
turns, a like Book, or List of what Men  
she brought home with her, and Signed  
by the Master ; which Books shall be sent  
by the General *Custom-house Messenger*,  
every Week, unto the *Admiralty*, where  
should be an expert Clerk, in a particular  
Office, only for that purpose, to receive  
the same ; and out of the said Lists, to  
enter into Books, he should keep for that  
purpose, viz. an Alphabet of Books, a  
Book for each Letter Yearly ; or perhaps  
Twenty Books, may contain the Twenty

four Letters, some Letters being not so much used, that a Book may contain two or three, all ruled with Columns, *viz.* The Master, Ship, and Companies Names, Places of usual Residence, whence Come, whither Bound, when Entred, Inward, and Outward, &c. And also, that the Vice-Admiral of every County, do by himself, or sufficient Deputy, every Year, or as often as the Lord High Admiral shall direct, Visit all the Sea Ports, Rivers, and Creeks of every Parish, and place where Maritime People Inhabit; as Seamen, Fishermen, Hoymen, Ferrymen, Bargemen, &c. within their several Counties, and there shall send for, or summon before them, the Church-wardens, and Overseers of the Poor, who shall give them account of what such Men live within their Precincts, their true Names, Sir-names, Ages, and Aboards; which said Accounts shall, by the said Vice-Admiral, be drawn into a fair List, and sent unto

260 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
the said Office, and there be entred into  
the said Books. Now the *Vice-Admiral*  
might, by his Warrant, send to the said  
Parishes, to send in to him, by such a day  
appointed, at a most convenient place  
for their ease, the said Account; and in  
case any shall neglect the said Duty, or  
Conceal any Man that hath used the said  
Practice, and place, for the space of Six  
Months, from between the Ages of Eighteen,  
and Sixty, that are not worth one  
Hundred Pounds clear, when Debts paid,  
or in such sort as the *Lord High Admiral*  
shall direct his Warrant to the *Vice-Ad-  
miral*; the Nature, and Substance of the  
*Vice-Admirals* to contain the substance of  
the *High-Admirals*; which Returns, or  
Presentments, least they prove to be false  
by Concealments, and Partialities, they  
should be required upon Oath: After  
which, if the said *Vice-Admiral* shall upon  
his Visits find false, or partial, he should  
send to the *Quarter Sessions* next, his In-  
for-

formation of that Officer's Perjury, under Hand and Seal, to the *Clerk of the Peace*, who should file the said Information against that *Church-warden*, or *Overseer of the Poor*, and proceed against him, in behalf of the *King*, as for *Perjury*, and punished by the Judgment of the *Bench*. If the Laws extant, are not sufficient to impower the *Lord High Admiral* to do these things, as here mentioned, there might be a Clause added to his Power, as the *King* and *Parliament* shall think meet, for the better governing of the *Maritime Affairs*; by which Methods aforesaid, being duly observed, and kept, it would cost the *King* for keeping the said Office, but a small matter, which would soon be saved, in the great Expences for *Pressing of Men*; beside the great Abuses done in the Countrys; be prevented, if the *Vice-Admirals* be good Men. Also, if the said Law were, That if any Parish shall Conceal any one between the said *Sessions*,

S 3 and

262 *Martial Regulations* Or,  
and summoned, and not bring him forth,  
That for every Man so Concealed, and  
proved by the Oath of one Man, That he  
was in the Parish, by the space of Twenty  
four Hours, and not seized by any of the  
Parish, then the *Vice-Admiral's Deputy*,  
shall take Distress upon the said *Church-*  
*wardens*, or *Overseers of the Poor*, for  
Ten Shillings for every such Man, and for  
every time so Concealed, to be born by  
the *Parish* equally, out of the *Parish*  
Rates.

I only add, That if the *Lord High Admiral's Warrants* to all the *High Sheriffs of England*, that they do send their Warrants to the *Constables of Hundreds, Wapentakes, &c.* and they to the *Petty-Constables, or Tything-men*, That they should make a like Presentment, *viz.* The *Constable of the Hundred*, should deliver it in every *Affizes, or Goal-delivery*; which Presentment the *Petty-Constables* should be sworn to the truth thereof, before

fore some *Justice of the Peace*, before the *High Constable* receiveth it, and then he should from thence draw one Presentment for the *Hundred*, to give in at the Assizes; and say, as from the *Petty-Constables*, under their Oaths, thus presenteth; out of which Presentments, the *Clerk of the Assizes* shall give the *Admiralty*, the needful Account, at the end of every Circuit, there to be entered into the Office aforesaid: For many Men, when War is, do betake themselves to live with their Friends in the *Inlands*, and follow their Occupations, and at the end of the Wars, do return to their *Maritime Lives*, or wait to make slips into *Merchant-men*; but this being duly executed by *Vice-Admirals*, *Custom-houses*, and *High-Sheriffs*, and transmitted unto such an Office, as before mentioned, and there well digested into Method, and duly kept; so it would enable the *Lord High Admiral*, at all times, to give the *King*, his *Council*, and

Parliament, when required, a true, and certain state of the Kingdom, as to *Maritime Strength*; and also enable him to collect them from all Places, in little Time; less Charges, and less Trouble to the People, in their Disquiet of the Country: So there might be made good Estimates of the Increase or Decrease of our *Maritime Strength*; at any time to be gathered out of the *Ledger-Books* of the said Office, and only Communicable to the *Admiralty*; and yet farther, at the King's, or perhaps the *Lord High Admiral's* Order, Proclamation might be made upon the *Exchange*, or put out in *Gazettes*, Requiring all Merchants, Owners of Ships, &c. to signifie byd their Letter to the said Office where their Ships were, by their last Advices, and whither Bound, and where expected next, with some Estimate of the Ships number of Men, Burthen, and some value of Cargo; that care proportionably might be taken, for their

their Protection, and Preservation; the which may often prevent the sudden Seizures of the Subjects, and Wealthy Effects of the Nation; for it is not possible, that *Merchants*, &c. can be privy to the Intrigues of States, which ought to have their Paths in Secret and Select Councils. As for the Methodizing these things, I do not project; but only hint the Basis, and Foundations thereof; that the Superstructures might be raised thereon, to perfection, by the Skilful Architects of the Wise Legislators, and State Politicians of the Nation.

## IX. The Measures necessary to be taken, in our Present Wars with the French; and in point of Balancing of Trade for the future.

**A**nd First, For War, it being our present Condition,

**T**It would be an extraordinary means to Facilitate our Desires, if we did bid at a large rate, for the whole subjecting them in the *West-Indies*; and for the doing of which, we should have an especial eye of Intelligence, whenssoever they shall send any Succours thither; and if the Strength of ours, already sent, were not sufficient to perform it, in *December* next, a sufficient Supply, with *Land-men*, and all *Military Provisions*, with *Artillery*, should

be sent for the effecting it ; and never upon making Peace, should they be restored to any Command there, I mean, in any part of *America*: So would our *Colonies* thrive undisturbed, and be a mighty help to our *Navigation*, and as much an Abatement to them : For the whole Commands of those Parts, being once brought under one Interest, it would be like a well-twisted Cord, made up of many Threds, although some thereof were not of any strength of themselves, yet by their near conjunction, and twisting together with the others, all being twisted one way, acquireth a considerable strength : For the Interest of the *French*, in those parts, have of late Years thriven to a great degree, not only to the Extirpating of us out of St. *Christophers*, &c. but to the disquieting us through the whole, putting in for a large share thereof ; by which you may perceive already, how pert it makes them, and gives them fair

hopes

*Royal Speculations*: Or,  
Hopes of a large share of the Seas; the  
which, if longer continued, it would  
have a bad effect on England, I fear; they  
not only, by their Strength, disquiet us  
there, but also Countenancing, and Ex-  
citing the *Natives* to Arms, supplying  
them therewith, but also Assisting, Abet-  
ting, Instructing, and Supporting them  
with all Necessaries, to disturb, and de-  
stroy our *Colonies*; whereas, if there  
were no such Pretenders, that part of the  
World would be mightily Peopled by us,  
and be a Trade that would take off a vast  
Manufact from us, and maintain a great  
*Navigation*, which would be ready to as-  
sist us, in our *European Wars*, whensoe-  
ver we should be put to it: Nay, in  
little time, the Trade thereof might be  
so increased, that it might take off the  
greatest part of our *Woollen Manufacts* in  
*England*, and Products of *Tin*, *Lead*,  
*Iron*, &c. especially if we addict our selves  
also to a *Linen Manufact*; the which we  
may

may most easily, and advantageously do, as I shall hereafter make appear. Then, I say, we shall not so much abound, and depend on the *Woollen Manufact*, when part of our Lands, and People are employed about the *Linnen*.

I say, These Increases of our *Colonies*, in the *West-Indies*, would be a mighty advancement to our Trade, by its mysterious way of walk, and make our Bulk of *Marine Affairs* swell to a vast Quantity; which is the very *Strength, Glory, and Safety* of the Nation, as I have elsewhere shewed; and was also early perceived by the Excellent Sir *Walter Rawleigh*, in his most Elaborate, and Accurate Work, of *the History of the World*. I say, These things are of a mighty Consideration to us: So that if we do not timely make use of the Talent, that God Almighty hath given us possession of already, we may afterwards find it too late; and so by step after step, and slip after slip, let slip the last

270. **Rabat Speculations:** Or,  
last opportunity of maintaining our Right,  
and Dominion of the Seas; the which  
being gone, the effect thereof may be,  
to be glad to enjoy the *Colonies*, and  
*Trade* we have already acquired, and our  
quiet at home; the which we must no  
longer expect, than that it is according to  
the Will and Pleasure of that Nation,  
who is most powerful at Sea; one large  
step we have made already in the *East-  
Indies*, pray God we are not preparing  
for another in the *Mediterranean*: The  
Demolishing of *Tangier*, the French finds  
the good Effect thereof, and we the evil. I  
question, if all *Christendom*, did not grudge  
us that place? But it's too late to repine  
now: Wherefore it becomes us to lay  
fast hold of those Opportunities God  
hath given us, to maintain our *Naviga-  
tion*; which is, not to let the French hold  
one Command in the *West-Indies*, or any  
part of *America*.

If

If any one should say, It is not to be done.

I Answer thus; It is much like the luke-warm, and evil Counsel, given at that time, about *Tangier*; that the cost thereof to maintain it, was more than the Intrinsic Value could be to *England*, and put the *King* to Streights for Money, and often need of his Parliament: The which, when I heard spoken, it made me fetch my Breath through my Back for Grief: and Answered, *That a Hundred Thousand Pounds spent more, were better than to lose it*: But I guessed it to partake of the *French Polliticks*, as the Selling of *Dunkirk*; which Town, with *Callice* (which is kept from us, and so lately in our Possession) are the next Feathers, most needful for *England* to Plume them with, they being more important to us, than a whole Province elsewhere: I will not enter into the Praises of them, and the Advantages thereby that would redound to *England*, lest

272. **Naval Speculations.**: Or,  
lest I should be like the *Hunter*, who be-  
fore he had caught his *Game*, took the  
pains to set forth the Excellent Tastes  
thereof, and the Ways of Dressing it,  
but never caught it: Wherefore I will  
say no more, but put a —— to it until  
a fitter Opportunity: Only I will add,  
That they should not have the Command  
of any one *Collony* in the *Univerſe*, but  
what *Factories* they have under other Go-  
vernments, which cannot be avoided,  
without Wars with that Government:  
And thus would I deal with them, as to  
their *Collonies*.

*Secondly*, As to their *Fishing* on the  
Banks of *New-found-land*, where they  
are become very numerous, and is their  
first, if not chiefest Seminary of *Maritime*  
*People*; who are extream Hardy, and  
Patient in Hardships, and Labour; and  
would be glad of the *English* Benefits of  
the Harbours there, and Protection in  
that Trade, and bring their Effects under  
the

the English, and carry it in our bottoms, under us, to our Factories abroad ; for a great part of them are also Protestants, and would willingly draw their Families and Dependances out of France, if they might enjoy the Immunities, Profits, Privileges, and Protections, as Subjects of England, if they were so treated, *viz.* thus, That six, or a needful number of Ships of War, were sent to wait upon the Fishery of New-found-land, Greenland, Iceland, and the North-Seas every Year, which should take all the French upon the Banks, and those Seas ; and whosoever would be willing to mix themselves with our Men, to catch and make Fish, and be content to come into our Bottoms, and a like number of our Men go into theirs, for the Season ; which Men of War, of ours, should be fitted with all manner of Fishing Tackle, and should make Fish, which should be for the King's Account ; of which Account of

T

Fishery,

*Fis*her, there should go a Merchant, who should be a Husband of the King's Fishery, and give an Account thereof, and be under the Admiral's Command, and in the Ship with him; who should, by his Command to the rest of the Captains, give him all convenient assistance to further the Affair, and go with them up the Straights to their Markets, as usual, under the Assistance and Convoy of more Ships, to make a *Grand Fleet*, to meet at such a place, at such Seasons as shall be appointed for our General, or *Grand Convoy*; who shall Meet, and Rendezvous at such times of the Year, and Place, as hereafter shall more particularly be shewed.

Now the Masters, and Principal Men of those Captived Ships of the French, I say should be put on Board our Men of War, and like Men of Capacity, should be Detached out of the Men of War, and there should they Fish, and act all

all the Season, for the making of Fish for  
the Publick Stock of the King's; and  
should have like Encouragement in every  
respect, as the *English*, if they are wil-  
ling to work under the *English*; and at  
the Determination of the Voyage, at their  
Arrival in *England*, they should be paid  
such Wages, as they were to receive in  
the French's private Owners Service, eve-  
ry Man, as they were capacitated by them;  
and also the Masters, for what Shares they  
can make appear they owned, Should be  
accounted unto them, at their said Arri-  
val, if they will settle here in *England*,  
and use the said Trade; which Concerns  
of theirs, should remain in the publick  
Stock, for some time, as a Pledge for  
them, that they do not Desert when they  
have it; I mean, till they can give some  
assurance of their Fidelity, by getting  
their Families over, or by going another  
Voyage; or, some way, finding Sureties  
for their true meaning, otherwise to re-

276 **Naval Speculations** Or,  
main as Prisoners of War. Now, I mean,  
there should be three, or five Honest good  
Merchants of the *East Land Company*, who  
should be Commissioned by the King, to  
manage, and to Husband this Affair of  
*Fisbery* for the King; And although the  
said Captains be Commissioned, by the  
Admiralty, yet they might be referred to  
certain Instructions, which they should receive from the King's Commissioners  
for *Fisbery*; and such Commanders, Officers,  
and Seamen, should generally be  
chosen, who have used the Trades; and are  
the more likely to advance the said Affair  
by their Knowledge, Diligence, and Ap-  
plication; and the difference in their Ma-  
nagements, would in a small time be com-  
pared, and in few Years, advance it to be  
a considerable Affair; and, as I said, the  
poor French, who have been bred up to  
it, be glad to shelter themselves under  
our Protection; and every Man so gain-  
ed from our Enemy, may be accounted, in  
point

point of balancing of *Maritime Strength*, at four Men, and so proportionably.

**T**hirdly, As to repelling their Strength at Sea, by *Grand Armadoes*, and thinking them such an Enemy as will meet us, in a set and resolute point of Battle, as we have been used heretofore by others, I conceive, may prove a Mistake: My Reasons therefore are these.

First, That they have now, in their Equipment of this *Fleet*, skimmed, and sifted their whole Dominion for *Mariners*, nay, *Boat-men*, *Ferry-men*, and all that have used the Waters, that there is scarce a Man of that Nature, if I may go so near, that is left out of the King's Service; for they have used incredible Art, and Stratagem to bring them out; and they have lost a considerable Number by Sicknes, since their Expedition out of *Ireland*, amongst which *Irish*, they brought much Sicknes; they have laid by their Merchandize, saving a little in the Le-

**Royal Speculations:** Or,  
want, and have also drained the *West-Indies*: All this, if my Information be not  
false, (to the truth whereof I must refer  
you,) I say, If it be tollerably true, and  
will Fight us; it bespakes them rather of  
that Temper, that a Marquiss of theirs,  
about Ten Years since, was pleased to  
give our Nation a Character in Ridic-  
ule, in a small Tract, called, *The Poli-  
ticks of France, presented unto the French  
King, but soon came into English*; where-  
in he says, *We are a heavy, dull People,*  
*fit for sudden stroaks, or present dint of*  
*War, but of no Policy to carry it on for any*  
*time;* and his Master need not be at any  
great Expence to make us ruine our selves,  
by our own Expences; let him only cause us  
to Equip, and keep great Fleets at Sea;  
and in the mean time they would prey upon  
our Merchandise, by the Knights of Malta,  
brought with Privileges into some of the  
Islands in West-France; we having no Al-  
lies; and so goes on.

Now

Now, I say, if he fights us with any considerable Body of a Fleet ; I mean, positively, and plainly to repel Strength with Strength, then I will revert his own Character of us, upon himself, and People ; *That they are Impolitick, and of no Invention to carry on a War of Time, fit only for a sudden Stroke, or, Sa, Sa ; their Circumstances being such, That if they fight but Sixty Sail of us, with much more strength, and get the better on't, if we behave ourselves as we have formerly done, I mean, with good Courage, and Conduct ; yet it would be so dear a Prize to him, that it were far more prudent for him to let it alone ; for he has no Stores of Masts, Yards, Cordage, Pitch, Tarr, &c. nor no more Men, nor any Allies for either.* So I say, That if he be so hardy, I declare him without Policy, for then he has done his *Maritime Work* at once, without hopes of recovering this Age ; whereas, if he does as he did the last Year, collect his *Maritime*

Strength together, and Sail a few Leagues to Sea, to Animate his People, or make some hasty Expedition into *Ireland*, or *Scotland*, or Depredation on our Coast, to fill us, and all the World with Noise, and Rumour of his great *Armies* and *Fleet*, and put us to vast Expences to meet him, and in the mean time to neglect our *Merchandize*, and starve our Factories abroad; and stifle up, and destroy with Fatigue and Sickness more Men than any Enemy's Engaging would do us; which is no small dispiriting of Men, who meet no cheerful Rencounters, either of Prizes, Refreshments of *Foreign Countrys*, and Vicissitudes of Affairs; but only sharp Commands, Wants, and Fatigues, Sickness, if not Death, and the painfullest of Deaths, viz. to see the Picture of Death so long before his Face, viz. his Messmates and Comfratres going day by day before him, caused only by Want, and Fatigue, &c. And when the French hath

hath done his great Expedition, some such thing as I said before, and been a few Leagues at Sea ; nay, perhaps, made the *Lizard*, or come up the *Chanel*, if the Wind be so that he may be sure we cannot find him ; but e're we come where he was, he is gone into Port ; and then the *Couriers* flies with the News, That he hath been out, but could not find the *English* nor *Dutch* to fight ; so they are come in only to refresh their Men, and to take fresh Water, and was resolved within Fourteen Days to seek for them, and if possible, to find them ; which Fortnight being past, and a Month after that (perhaps) we may hear, That the Men he had collected from all the *Sea-ports* of the Nation, are a Month before that time returned cunningly, and no noise made ; every one to his Station of preparing for a Voyage in a *Privateer*, and ready to put to Sea ; and in the mean time the *Seamen* which the *French King*

King keeps in constant Pay, have by Michaelmas laid up his Ships safely, and put up the Stores safe; not knowing when he shall have any more, and clean up a few *Fourth Rates* and *Frigats* to cruise about in the Winter, and his Bulk of Men who are all dispersed Home, perhaps have not cost him above Four Pounds a Man; and now even before our *Grand Fleet* is returned Home, and especially after the Seas swarm with *Privateers* and small *Frigats*, and to be sure all head *Lands* and *Latitudes*, where Ships usually fall in with, are well pleyed by them; so our *Merchant-Men* fall into their Mouths inevitably, and thereby enrich them for all the Winter; and about April he sends to all the *Ports*, that a Ship stirrs not out of *Port* but is Mustered by the King's Officer, where every Man's Name and Abode is put down, the which Registry they also have in every *Province*, kept by their *Intendant* or *Provost*:

But

But now Security must be given to return by such a Day from Sea, to that or some other Port, by the Captain and Owners; so that by the latter end of April, a Summons may come to have them lay up their Privateers, and repair to such Places for their Transport to Brest, and receives every one a Crown Conduet Money, and so to act over the last Year again; yet to make the Sham hold good for another Year, they shall advance up the Chanel, that they might be seen and known to be there, they make Depredations on the Coast on Shoar, but be sure not to meet a Body of our Fleet, that may or dares Fight them in set Battel, for there is Room enough in the Sea for such Shams. And now I will leave the French Coasts, and return to the English; where, if we thus Dance after this Enemy, before or about Michaelmas, we believe it is too late for him to come forth, and we order our Ships Home, and the bigger we lay

lay up, and leave a Squadron of the leiser to cruise; but they Fowl and Sickly, and the rest are gone to clean for a Relief to the others, which about the latter end of *December* are Relieved; so the rest are cleaned, and the Great Ships also; the Sick are put on Shoar and refreshed, and others goe home to see their Families, and the Ships are all Cleaned in the Winter in their Turns; and about *February* we begin to stir, and in *March* and *April* we scour the Land for Men; and of the same Men that went out the last Years Expedition, many are dead, nay more than by Fighting two General Battels in a Summer would have consumed; so by the middle of *May*, we may have Manned our *Grand Fleet*, and be ready to sail soon after to the *Westward*; and if we please may act over some things, varying, but a like in the Main, *viz.* That the *French Ships* be not hurt, but safely laid up with the Stores again, and that

that we have no *Merchandise* gone out, nor home, and many Seamen captived thereby ; nay are brought to fight against us by Stratagem, and have lost a great many Lives, and spent much Treasure, and disheartned our Men because the edge of our Sword cuts not in Bartel : Wherefore I would that this dodging Enemy might be dealt with so, that he may not by his Craft keep a Fleet, and preserve it only to keep us at a vast Expence of Lives and Treasure, and dishearten our Men for want of Action, and vicissitudes of Fortune, as I said before ; and in the mean time Starve our Factories for want of Trade, so that we thrive not in Trade abroad nor at home, while we are at Wars with the Winds and Seas : I say, let us and the Dutch Joyn, and keep only two good Fleets of *Thirds*, *Fourths* and *Fifth Rates*, and in the Summer time, some *First* and *Second Rates* for Flags, &c. for it were well if no more than

286 *Royal Regulations* Or,  
than three First, and three Second Rates  
were in England, and all the rest First and  
Seconds could be wished into Thirds,  
Fourths and Fifths, according to their  
Costs, of which I will say more hereaf-  
ter. But, as I say, these two Grand Fleets  
consisting, English and Dutch, of Seven-  
ty Sail of Good Men of War, with as  
many Merchant-Men as could be Manned,  
to carry out and home our Merchantized  
and so to take their turns, that when  
one Fleet comes into the *Downs* with a  
*Westerly Wind*, the other should be  
ready to Sail outwards: I say, Seventy  
Sail of good Stout Men of War, each  
with a convenient number of Fire-Ships:  
Thus, there should be built Thirty Sail  
of new light Frigats, for Sailing and  
Rowing, with about Twenty Guns each,  
which should serve for Scouts to the  
*Grand Convoys*, for Intelligence for ply-  
ing off head Lands, and certain Latitudes,  
to give advice to Merchant-Men, and se-  
cure

cure them from Capses ; which by their Sailing and Rowing, being always kept clean for that purpose, that no Ship should be able to Wrong them in the Seas ; also with the said Grand Convoy, should go some Ships Loaden with Materials for Fire Ships, that upon any Intelligence, that an Enemy is prepared to Attacke the Grand Convoy, then they should out of the said Store Ships, fit their Frigates into Fire Ships, which would by their nimbleness do singular Service, and at their approach leave no more Men on Board than serves for a Fire-Ship to do service with ; this Fitting, I say, may be done at Sea, and upon a very small warning ; or at the last Port they part with, to enter the Chanel, &c. or where they may expect the grand Convoy to be attaqued ; which place and doubt being past, they may reduce them into serviceable Men of War, for the Uses before : They being thus appointed, would be of  
extra-

288 *Moral Speculations*: Or,  
extraordinary use to the Nation: It's pity  
there were not Forty Sail of them, some  
of Thirty Guns, but no bigger, they  
would be of mighty use to Ply off head  
Lands in the *Chanel*, be Scouts on the  
*Enemies Coasts*, and approach great  
*Fleets*; *Privateers* would not care to  
meddle with them, by whom they shou'd  
get nought but Blows, and Hazards of  
the Fortunes of War? These, I say,  
would serve for Convoys, for *Colliers*,  
*Coasters*, *New-found-land-men*, and ply  
the *Capes*, and head *Lands* of the Trading  
Places of *Ireland* and *Scotland*, that they  
be not so infested with *Pirates*; serve to  
attend our *Colonies*, carry Intelligence  
any whither; they would be of wonder-  
ful use: The neglect, and want of them,  
is sufficiently experienc'd of late. And on  
the other side, providing of Great and  
Immense Castles of Ships, vast expence of  
Treasure, constant, and growing Chal-  
lenges, with little use to the Nation; of  
which

which I shall speak more in the ensuing Discourse; but this would I have done  
I now return to the *Grand Convoy*, of  
which Frigats, they should be accompa-  
nied with Fifteen Sail each; the said Con-  
voy to consist of, I say, Seventy Sail of  
Ships, few less than Sixty Gns, and not  
above two of Eighty; but most of Se-  
venty Guns, which will do great Service  
in General Fights, and dare lie by the  
side of any Ship, and be able to keep the  
Sea the Winter also; for the fitting out of  
great Ships, and laying them up again in  
four Months, is a vast Expence, and dis-  
couragement to Men; only serves to gra-  
tifie the Itch of Grandeur, in some Men,  
and does little more than what a Ship of  
Seventy Guns will do, who stays out two  
or three Years on a Stretch; then the  
Men should have a Summ to receive, and  
neither they, nor the Service be unhinged  
so often. Now no Ship should stir with-  
out the *Lands-end*, except for *Ireland*,

290 *Partial Speculations*: Or,  
without the said Convoy, nor to carry  
less than Thirty Guns, and Sixty Men; if  
any be found otherwise, they should be  
seized by our Men of War, or Governors,  
and caused to pay a certain Fine to the  
King, ordered by *Act of Parliament*, or  
*Council*; and that this *Grand Convoy* do  
call at certain Seasons, at least twice, if  
not thrice in the Year, at one of the  
*Western Islands*; but upon Recollection,  
there being no Harbours, or Road for so  
great a Fleet, wherefore *Lisbon*, *Cadiz*,  
or *Gibraltar* is better; but *Cadiz* is the  
most convenient and safe Road, whereall  
our *Merchant Ships* should have advice to  
come to from all parts of the World,  
who must come through the *Chanel*, out,  
or home; which *Grand Convoy*, at their  
coming there, and whiles they stay there,  
should send out certain Frigats, and other  
Ships to Cruise at certain *Latitudes*, and  
*head Lands*, where Ships use to fall with,  
and secure them to the *Grand Convoy*,  
and

and if the *Portuguese* at those Islands should harbour any *French*, or on their Coasts to *Privateer* on us, they should be Warred upon by us both, and treated as open Enemies ; the which would please the *Spartan*, and cause them gladly to Entertain us : Then shall we not fatigue, and destroy our Men by so unhealthy stifling up, they being refreshed in *Foreign Ports*, and getting something, if not yet of experience of *Countrys*, and be made compleat *Mariners*, conversing through the World : Then also would we have some Trade go on, without so great Losses ; and he that is strongest, to maintain their Trade through the Seas undisturb'd, would have the best share, and, in time, have the Dominion of the Seas ; we having so lately let slip the Opportunity of a Receptacle for our *Merchandise*, as a Curb to all Trading through the *Streights-Mouth*, by the Demolishing of *Tangier* : The Convenience, and Importance there-

292 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
of to England, shall I never forget, nor  
easily forgive the Loss thereof; the Road  
and Mould had gotten a great many bad  
Qualities, when the design grew ripe for  
its Demolishing, which before had as ma-  
ny good, and was a means for their get-  
ting of Estates, who were instrumental in  
the Demolishing it, after vast Expences.  
Mighty pretty ! Burghsay, having lost  
it so, we ought to secure some place of  
Certainty to us, about the Streights-mouth,  
as soon as we can find a fit opportunity,  
either by Marriage, or Wars; I wish we  
had the like of Tangier at this time, as it  
was at Demolishing, in lieu of a fourth  
of a Million of Money, it would not be  
too dear bought.

As for the Corsairs of Algiers, &c. in  
whose Wars (if I do not mistake) the  
Dutch dealt more thriftily than us; for  
they always sent their Merchandise in  
Fleets, with sufficient Convoys, according  
to the strength of those Pirates, that if

they would at any time bid up for them, they must lay a good Stake for the Betts; and if they ever won them, they would be dear *Prizes.*

So I say, If ever the *French* would dare to attack these *Grand Convoys*, they should buy them so dear, that they should be no Gainers, and lose soon the Capacity of disturbing our Trade; for this way would force them to win what they get, by repelling Strength with Strength; the which being thus put into the Balances of War, they must needs prove too light for us both, if I am not mightily out in my Computation.

Moreover, if they should bid up for a Surprize, there is large room in the Seas, and variableness of *Winds* for to prove the Surprisers surprised, and they be at equal Charges. I say, I do rather commend the former Proceedings of the *Dutch* in their Wars with the *Algerines*; and those *Corsairs* of the *Mediterranean*, by Con-

U 3 voys,

294 **Natal Speculations:** Or,  
voys, than ours by keeping a Fleet to  
wait their Motions; if their Charges and  
ours were computed therein, I doubt, we  
should be found much to exceed them:  
Indeed we may have done them more Da-  
~~ma~~<sup>ges</sup>, but have received far greater Los-  
~~ses~~<sup>ses</sup> in our *Merchandises*: So that I must  
needs say, That the most Frugal way of  
Wars, and the most certain to avoid the  
Policies and Stratagems of our Enemies,  
that they do not put upon us; and where  
fewest Accidents do attend our Losses,  
must needs be the best proceeding with  
any Enemy in Point of Management of  
War.

But this general way of Management,  
may admit of particular Exceptions, if  
they alter their *Measures*, or *Circumstan-*  
*ces*; which part of Frugality leads me to  
say more thereto, than what I have already  
said; which is, That we have laid out  
too much Treasure in building too many  
great

great Ships of the the First and Second Rates, with large Expences of adorning, by *Carving, Gilding, and Painting*, as I have before hinted ; which great Ships lie by, and are maintained at vast Expences, and serve but very seldom, or rarely for the Defence of the *Nation*, and Preservation of our *Merchandize* in Foreign Parts, they being not fit for all *Voyages*, nor all *Seas* ; and whentsoever they are used, they are attended with double and treble accidents of War for loss, and not to equal advantages to the strength of the *Navy*, proportionable to the costs, and of Men required ; as for example :

A Ship of One Hundred Guns, shall carry near One Thousand Men, and Two Ships of Seventy Guns each, or Four of Forty Six Guns, or Seven of Thirty Two Guns each, and are not full the Charges of one of those great Ships, and they are not

not liable to the Hazard and Casualties of War or Seas, as they are: I might compute the Accident to be Ten times less of the Smaller, and Ten times more of Use. I would fain know of any one, whether one of Seventy, one of Forty Six, and two of Thirty Two Guns, were not Ten times oftner in Service to the Nation, and Ten times less Accidents attending them at Sea, and yet of less Cost to the Nation: Then may I conclude there is now near Sixteen Sail of great Ships which are under the said Circumstances to the Nation, and are for maintainance constantly every Year, at near Forty Thousand Pounds cost lying still; wherefore I cannot commend the building and repairing of some of them fallen into decay; but to let the application be to the multiplying of Ships of the lesser Ranks; the which expences will be of Ten times the service to the Nation, as before proved, and not to forget to save one.

one *Fifth Rate*, out of a *First Rates Carving, Gilding and Painting*; for the Ships need no more adorning, than what is of use for Fighting; only some Ships might be kept adorned and beautified for Transportation of *Princes or Ambassadors, &c.* as Ships for State; so was it heretofore, but of late Years we have run to a strange profuseness: For great *Shipwrights* have created us great Ships, or rather great Ships created *Shipwrights*; it being a time now to turn Frugal the right way, for lately the pretence for Frugality was lent to the retrenching of the Poor, needy, standing Officers in their Pay, and exacting of unreasonable and unknown duty from them, void of serviceableness to the King, and run the Treasure away by great Contracts secretly and cunningly carried, and the main point of keeping the Navy ready and well prepared with able and well appointed Officers, for the defence

298 *Natal Speculations* Or,  
defence and safety of the Honour and  
Wealth of the Nation, and at the most  
Frugal rates for the ease of the King and  
People, was made even as a screw that  
is made for to turn the wrong way, and  
screw against the Sun, and in the Interim,  
our *Builders*, *Contrivers*, and *Ship-Archi-  
tectures* goe over into *France*, to con-  
trive or build them Ships of War, or  
what else.

So hoping I have said enough, to ex-  
cite us to look a little to the Frugal part  
of the Management of the *Navy*, and also to  
inspect what sort of Officers have been  
crammed into the *Navy*, and whether  
private Interest, Trick, and Design, have  
not been busie and prevalent through  
the whole Series thereof; and if it be  
found Sick and Distempered, perhaps  
some seasonable Pills of *ExtraEtum Pil-  
lula Abdicationis* would do much good,  
Working

Working by Vomiting some Ill Contracted Pelf, acquired by contracting; and also Purging others from the scury Dregs of private Interest, Trick, and Design; that hereafter it may be in a tollerable degree of Health, and sound Constitution, which is the *Summum bonum* desired by this Work.

**T**R A D E between Nation and Na-  
tion is of that Weight and Con-  
sideration, to the Welfare, Safety, and  
Peace thereof, that very often bloody  
Wars are made, and prosecuted fiercely  
for the procuring and maintaining there-  
of; for by it Kingdoms and States be-  
come Opulent, and Populous, which is  
the strength thereof; and therefore, for  
the Preservation thereof, and that the  
Neighbouring Nations do not either un-  
dermine us, in our *Foreign Trade* with  
others,

others, or over-balance us in the Trade between us and them, 'tis necessary to say somewhat.

To these two Points I will speak here of France only, and by them to shew Rich, Populous, and Strong; and we, in the Interim, either stand still, or decline towards Weakness, and Poverty; or yet, if we do neither, but increase our Wealth from our Trade with others, which proves gainful to us; and we are bereft of that Wealth by a Series of Commerce with Potent, and neighbouring People, whd bend themselves, by more than ordinary means, (I might say, Unrighteous, and Inhumane Policies, to enlarge their Dominions,) even like those Governments I have elsewhere spoken of: Then every degree or step we permit them to take towards it, will prove to us, like the taking out of one Scale, and putting it into the other, at the wrong end of the Balance, and so will it become a double Weight,

302 Naval Speculations: Or,  
Weight, in point of balancing Riches,  
and Strength. I need not Inculcate fur-  
ther the usual means by which Nations do  
become Rich, and Strong; and thereby  
do spread their Plumes, or Tallons, ra-  
ther over their neighbouring Nations;  
and, in fine, subject them to their Laws,  
and Injunctions; which History doth  
plentifully afford, whither I refer you:  
But I will only give you one Maxim, or  
Instance, of Accumulating Riches, it be-  
ing the Foundation of Strength; which  
Instance shall be in the more private Af-  
fairs of Men, *viz.* Thus:

If a Nobleman, Gentleman, Merchant,  
or Tradesman, &c. does in his Consump-  
tion, or Expences of his Family, con-  
sume or expend more than his either  
Estate or Profits clearly brings in; or  
that he does not make a due Calculation  
thereof, and give a full allowance for his  
Losses of Rent, or Moneys, by bad  
Debts, Repairs of Lands, Houses, or

Da-

Damages of Goods: I say, if he does not give a full allowance, on his Computation thereof, but continues his Port and Expences to the heighth, he must of necessity, at the approach of those Accidents, be disappointed; and must inevitably fall into decay of his Wealth, and, in time, come into Poverty; which might be applyed to the Politick Bodies of Kingdoms, or Nations: For if a Kingdom, or Common-wealth, do by their Trade import more Goods into it, the which is therein consumed and expended in their Adornings and Luxury, than they do Export of their Product, or Manufact: I say, with whatsoever Nation they do thus Trade, they are *Loosers* by them; and the Overplus, or Balance of that Trade, must be made good with *Balloon* in Specie.

Again, If any Nation Trading to another, with *Product*, or *Manufact*; and that Nation do by their Laws, lay a heavy

304 *Rational Speculations* Or,  
vy Tax, or Impost upon their Commodi-  
ties; so then the Prince, and Publick  
Treasury of that Nation, receives the  
greatest Gains by that Product, and Man-  
ufact, and has the Labours and Product  
of the other Nation, to turn to their in-  
riching: Especially if again in lieu of the  
former Product and Manufact, they do Im-  
port Product and Manufact from the said  
Kingdom, or Nation, and do not lay a  
like Imposition, that their Publick Treas-  
ury may also receive a like Profit from the  
Commodities from them so Imported;  
here is an uneven Balance of Trade:  
And yet more unevenness in Trade, is  
when the Commodities of the one Nation  
Exported, is only for the sustaining of  
Life, or Provisions for Military Strengths;  
and what the other Exports is spent alto-  
gether in Adornings, Pleasures, Luxury,  
and Debouchery: This again makes an  
uneven Balance in Trade, and tends to  
the weakening and impoverishing of that  
*Nation,*

Nation, that Trades for the Importation of *Vanities*, and *Pleasures*, and to the enriching and strengthening of those who Trade for the *Importation of Commodities*, which serves the Necessity of *Life*, or *Provisions of War*: In which there is a real, intrinsick value inherent, and a necessity thereof: Whereas the *Pleasures*, *Vanities*, and *Luxuries*, might better be spared; it tending to nothing, but the Softening, Effeminating, and Debauching the People; destroying their Prowess, and at the end will make them both Poor and *Unmartial*, and in time expose them to the *Insult* and *Conquest* of the other.

I remember, I have read in the History of *Anthony Duverdier* his Observation of the Antient and Modern Times; that whensoever a Nation hath been known to Imitate and Adore another Nation in their *Manners*, *Fashions*, *Diets*, *Sports*, &c. they have proved to be the *Insult* and

306 Naval Speculations : Or,  
Conquest of that Nation : God avert his  
*Judgments* from England, and give us a  
timely sight ; for whenever we lose the  
*Dominion of the Seas*, we lie the openest  
for *Invasion* of any in the *World* ; our  
Shipping being instead of strong *Garrisons*  
in every Province, to prevent the sudden  
over-running our *Country*, which *Garris-*  
*sons* others have, and we not.

Again, If two *Nations*, as aforesaid,  
Trading, and the one Imports from the  
other of its *Products* and *Manufacts*, in  
such Sorts, and Species, of the which  
they might supply themselves tollerably  
well at home ; but they neglect it, and  
send their Silver for the others ; which is  
again uneven Balancing, and bad *Poli-*  
*ticks*.

Now, if I mistake not, our *Trade* with  
*France*, for near Thirty Years past, hath  
run with a very uneven Balance, *viz.*  
The Importation of their *Commodities*,  
hath far exceeded our Exportations to  
them ;

them; and the Commodities we receive from them, as *Wines*, *Wrought-Silk*, *Laces*, and abundance of *Novels*, for Ornament and Pleasure, all which are paid for, by either *Bullock* transported, or else transmitted by Bills of Exchange out of Spain into France, for Commodities vended into Spain, and the Product, or Effects, by Money, viz. the Surplusage of that Trade is effected into France, and hath been no small occasion of the Growth of the Wealth and Strength thereof, within the said Years: Had not this Nation had a vast Trade with its Woollen Manufacts elsewhere, it must needs have had a considerable apprehension thereof long since; which Trade of Vanities, if they had been Limited, Prohibited, or a great Impost laid thereon, what Wealth of Bullock would it have caused to have remained in England; nay, a prodigious quantity; whose Expences have been wholly profusely vain, and debanchedly hurtful, to the

308 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
People of this Nation in general, effemina-  
ting and corrupting them in both *Military*  
and *Civil Affairs*; and enriching and  
strengthening the *French* by this uneven  
Balance; the Superfluities of our other  
*Trades* being turned to their *Profit*; that  
although we had a great *Trade* abroad,  
yet it has had a profuse Currant thereof  
into *France*, like unto the Story I have  
read of two *Spaniards*, who went to the  
*West-Indies* together, to adventure for  
*Silver*, intending to live there some Years,  
and return into *Spain* with their Wealth:  
The one when arrived, applyed himself to  
the *Mines*, to adventure there for *Gold*  
and *Silver*; the other he addicted him-  
self to *Farming* and *Husbandry*, in *Feed-*  
*ing of Cattle*, and *Tilling of Land* for  
*Corn*: So the *Miner*, as he got Money,  
came and bought *Provisions* with it of  
the *Husband-man*; and when the term  
expired, the *Miner* came home little the  
richer; but the *Husband-man* very rich.

So

So I say, That although we have had a vast *Trade* for near Thirty Years past, yet we have spent a *prodigious* quantity thereof with the *French* for *Commodities*, which we might better have been without, they serving only for *Debauchery* and *Luxury*.

As for the Salt we had from them, which seems to be of necessity ; It might have been as well supplyed us by the *Spanish* and *Portuguese Territories*, with what our own Nation could not have done : Yet great Improvement might have been made therein, if large *Impost* had been laid on the *French*, but the *Spanish* and *Portugal Commodities* are all Purchased with our *Manufact*, and at good Price, besides a surplusage of Bullion coming therefrom, and maintains a greater *Navigation*, which does all contribute to our *Wealth* and *Strength*, and tends not to the enriching of our Potent and Malevolent Neighbour ; which con-

310 ~~Royal Speculations~~: Or,  
sidered, is a thing of a double Conse-  
quence to us, even like a pleasant Plant  
bearing two sorts of Fruit, and there-  
fore ought to be digged about, and  
dunged.

Now as to the *Linen Trade* with  
*France*, it might have stood well enough  
with us, if it had been evenly carried  
between us, as it had been heretofore,  
that our *Woolen Manufacts* did purchase  
them, and all other of our Trade with  
*France*; for very little *French Wines* were  
Imported then; but afterwards our ex-  
pences of them grew to a prodigious  
quantity, and the Prices of them so en-  
hanced, that we set his Subjects to Work  
on a vast Improvement of *Vineyards*, and  
greatly to his Inriching; and he at the  
same time setting to Work, and encou-  
raging of his Subjects to the Improv-  
ement of the *Woollen Manufact*, and lay-  
ing so great an imposition upon our *Wool-  
len Exported*; Nay, they have vended

no

no small quantities of *Woollen Manufact* to us.

So, I say, as to our Trade with *France*, the large Importations from thence, and the neglecting and debasing the *Spanish Trade*, have been a proceeding not worthy to be ranked amongst the Politicks, and therefore fit to fall under consideration for Redress ; and finding our *Woollen Manufact* is done for Purchase of *Linen* in *France*, and that both *France*, *Holland*, *Flanders* and *Germany*, having advanced far into the said *Woollen Manufacts*, and must needs lessen our cheif dependance thereon : It would be very Prudent and Politick in us, to set heartily about the *Linen Manufact* ; I mean, that sort wherewith we used to be supplyed from *France*, viz. *Dowless*, *Lockrams*, and all sorts of *Canvasses* : The *Manufact* of *Paper*, we having made a fair progress therein already, and the advance of the *Linen Trade*, will also advance the *Paper* ;

312 **National Speculations**: Or,  
for it is not Fifty Years past, since *France*  
began it's gteat Improvement of the *Paper Trade*: Now as to the *Linen Manufact*, I argue thus: Our People, and  
chiefly the Women kind, by the Increase  
of them, and Decrease of our *Wollen Manufacts*, occasioned by the advance of o-  
ther Countries, made there into, will not  
have Employment, to become so profitab-  
le to the State, as they might; for a  
great part of the *Linen Manufact* is done  
by Women and Children: Now our  
Lands are sufficiently apt to produce the  
plentiful growth of *Flax*, so would a  
great part thereof be Employed thereto;  
that Land that is most proper, viz. *San-  
dy-Land* for the growth of *Flax*; and as  
otherwise, by our Experience and Im-  
provement we shall find out, and being  
Employed thereto, which is now either  
Employed to Pasture for *Flesh*, or to Til-  
lage for *Corn*; we should not abound in  
Provisions, as before I have Intimated, in  
the

the case of *Fishery*, or keeping of *Lent* ;  
and should maintain abundance of our  
People therein, and preserve the Money  
in our Nation, that hath formerly been  
sent into *France* to buy it.

Some will say, That we can have it  
out of *France* Cheaper.

But I answer : It is now come to that  
pass, that we can make it near as cheap  
our selves, as they sell it us, for which  
we send ready Money ; and if we do at  
any time send away *Woollen Manufact* for  
it, that by their *Impost* laid on it, we must  
make it here at so low a price, that our  
*People* must live at an exceeding low  
Rate ; as also, the *Wools* must be at a  
low price, or else we cannot sell them  
any : Wherefore it behoveth us to lay a  
large *Impost* on theirs, whensoever it  
shall be permitted to be *Imported* ; that  
our *People* might be encouraged to make  
it.

And

And to promote and encourage the said Manufact, here should be a kind of a willing Constraint on our selves, thus:

Let there be a certain Sum of Money, raised over the Nation, by an Act, in the nature of a Royal Aid; which being collected, let it be paid into the High Sheriff of the County, as a Treasurer; and at the General Quarter-Sessions, held for the said County, let every Hundred, or Division, produce one sufficient Person, who shall give Security for the said Money, and take it for Seven Years, Interest free, upon Condition, That he will employ the said Money, in making of Lockram, Dowlas, or Convay out of Flax, of the growth of England; and after the said Seven Years, let the Money be paid into the said Treasurer, and he pay it back to every Person from whom it was collected, or to the Heirs, or Assignes of such Parties: Or else by another Act, continued for some Years longer, or laid out upon some

Pub-

Publick Work-houses for that same Manufact, by some Person, that that Hundred shall present, at a General Quarter-Sessions, to be intrusted by them for that purpose : And in case some Hundreds are not fitly situated for the said Manufact; or that they do refuse, or neglect, to present a Person to carry on the said Work at the said Quarter-Sessions : That then the said Justices of the said County, at the said Quarter-Sessions, may cause the said Money to be paid unto a Person of some adjacent Hundred, in the said County ; who is, as before said, duly presented, to employ the same to the said Manufact.

And, whereas I have, in this foregoing Discourse, for the increase of Maritime People, which, by a sort of willing Constraint, are addicted to Maritime Lives, by taking all the Male Children, of Poor and Indigent Parents, and Binding them to the Sea, &c. So I here project, That all the Families of poor Parents, that are Females not

316 **Royal Speculations** Or,  
not able to maintain them, be also bound  
unto these Persons who are intrusted with  
the Work; and there to be employed in  
the said Manufact, until they shall be of  
the Age, as is directed, for the Binding  
of poor Children in a former Act, *For the*  
*maintaining the Poor*: And whatsoever  
Parish, or Tithing, shall not present one  
Boy, as before mentioned, or one Girl,  
as here specified, at a certain Petty-Sessions,  
held for that District, every Year: That  
the Justices of the Peace of the said Divi-  
sion, or District, shall present the said  
Neglect, at the next General Quarter-  
Sessions; and the said Bench shall make  
an Order of Sessions, to lay that Parish, to  
the next adjacent Parish, for to help main-  
tain their Poor; which Parish doth pre-  
sent above two Boys, or Girls, as is be-  
fore expressed; the said Justices of the  
Peace of each Division, shall, for that  
purpose, at every General Quarter-Sessi-  
ons, give in a List, or Roll, to the Clerk  
of

of the Peace, of what such Children are every Year Bound out, which shall be Entered on a Roll of Record, to be kept by the *Custos Rotulorum* of that County; which Roll should be duly called over at one set *Quarter-Sessions* in every Year, and that Affair duly Setled.

I do not herein endeavour to Dictate, or Methodize the way in particular, for the *Act of Parliament*; but do only hint it, Rough-hne it out, to be Regulated and Polished by the Skilful.

Again; Those Men Intrusted with the said Stocks, might be injoyned to find Work for the *Aged*, or *Decrepid*, of any Parish, from whence the said Stock was Collected, *viz.* Such Aged as craveth Alms of the said Parish; and the Rates, and Natures of the said Works, might be settled, and agreed by the next *Justice of the Peace*; the *Overseer of the Poor* to take care for the same, to see it be done by the said *Justice for the Poor*, that they be

not

318 **Natal Speculations:** Or,  
not too hardly dealt with by that Person:  
And if the said Poor cannot do enough of  
the said Work, at that said Rate, for their  
Maintainance; then the said Justice to  
order how much more the Overseer shall  
allow them, towards their Subsistence;  
by which Idleness may be prevented:  
Notwithstanding there hath been a for-  
mer like Act, for every Parish to erect a  
Work-houſe for their Poor; yet that took  
little effect, for that the Parishes are of-  
ten too little for to erect a House for Work,  
and no manner of Work, or Manufact,  
was set on foot; so that that Act proved  
generally to be of none effect in that  
point.

## A brief Summary of the whole VVork.

AS God Almighty hath made Fire, Air, Earth, and Water, the wonderful Works of his own Hands, in the Creation of the World; and therein hath put Man, and given him a Dominion over all the Creatures he hath been pleased to furnish his Immense Globe with, and given them all living Breath in Common; yet unto Mankind hath he given a more particular and inestimable Gift, viz. a Portion of his Holy and Divine Spirit, that by Wisdom and Justice, he might Rule and Govern the same: To which he has added (by the Writing of his own Finger) Laws of his Almighty's Inven-

320 **Natal Speculations**, Or,  
vention, to be a Guide and Pattern for  
him: And also more particularly Inspired  
*Princes, Prophets, Priests, Evangelists,*  
*Apostles, and Teachers,* to promulgate  
his Will; and yet more, that there might  
nothing be lacking to compleat Man's  
happiness in this World, and in the  
World to come, *viz.* to all Eternity,  
and be left without all manner of excuse;  
he hath sent from his own Bosome, his on-  
ly begotten Son; the Heir apparent and  
Lord of the everlasting Inheritance, and  
given him to be a Sacrifice, to satisfy his  
Justice, to wipe out all the Stores of the  
Sins of all Mankind; and not only  
so, but to amplify and confirm the  
Doctrines of those holy Men, hath pro-  
mised he will continue his Holy Ghost  
to guide Man to the World's End; and  
preserve him from the implacable hatred,  
the Devil hath unto him: Yet notwith-  
standing, all these helps Mankind, by  
the instigation of the Evil one, together  
with

with his own evil will and affections, falls into the abominable Sin of Pride, the ver-  
ry sin that moved God to Disband and  
Expel him out of his Heavenly Mansion,  
some of his Glorious Host. I say, it is  
this sin of Pride, by seeking for *Domi-  
nion* over others, is the cause of those great  
*Devastations of Countries*, of *Blood shed*  
of Men; the one endeavouring by *Policy*  
and *Strength*, to gain the other's *Right*;  
not caring for God's *Laws*, promulgated  
by those holy orders of Men aforesaid,  
or by God *Incarnate*.

Wherefore it is of absolute necessity  
for all good Men, by Christian Policy,  
and united Strength, to resist the Proud;  
for God giveth Grace to the humble, to  
be content with their own, and to defend  
it; yet whensoever right is put into the  
Balance of War, God giveth it an Issue  
according to his Divine purpose; by  
which Issue he transfers Rights from the

322 **National Speculations:** Or,  
one to the other: Now there is not only a right of *Dominion* belonging to Countries, by their Divisions, and Sub-divisions of Land, but also of the Seas; for every Country bordering upon the Ocean, hath a particular *Dominion* in the Seas, *viz.* to govern it, and to keep and preserve it from *Pirates* and *Robbers*, that Men might pass in safety, about their Lawful Occasions; and also, to take the *Product* thereof, as Fish, &c. as God hath endued it with.

Now the *Dominion* of the *Narrow Seas*, being from antient *History* always allowed and granted, upon all *Treaties* and *Conditions of Peace*, made between all the bordering Nations, to be the proper Right of the Imperial *Crown of England*; God having placed it an Island, in the *Denckidian Ocean*, which makes the *Narrow Seas*, and stored it with *Ports* and *Rivers*, convenient for the receiving  
of

of Ships, beyond any other Nation in Europe; and furnishing it with Timber and Iron of their own Product, for the building of Ships; and also, a People sufficiently apt for the same, as it were pointing unto us with his Almighty Finger, to Rule and Govern in it, which our former Princes have done without sparing Blood or Treasure to accomplish it: But now the French King maketh very large Efforts, to the bereaving us of that Right, and Pirating, Roving, and Ravaging in it, he having been increased in Shipping, Navigation, and Wealth, by our late Impolitick Proceedings.

First, by permitting the uneven balance of Trade with us: And

Secondly, By directing or suffering the changing the ancient and Expeditious Methods of the Discipline and Government of the Navy Royal; putting it into the hands of designing Projectors, to enrich

324 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
themselves, only confounding the Affair :  
exhausting much Treasure, to multiply  
great Ships of little use to our purpose ;  
and neglecting of lesser Ships, which we  
now want ; discouraging, and disanima-  
ting, *Warranted*, and *Standing Officers*,  
*Mariners*, and *Seamen* ; by blind-folding  
Pretences of strict observance of Duty,  
needless ; and from preserving the *Mari-*  
*nier* from being rooked of his Pay, by ha-  
ving liberty to dispose of it as he pleases ;  
for which purpose, he hath not been al-  
lowed an open Market for the same on  
Shoar, to bring it into Money into his  
Pocket ; nor yet on Board allowed a  
Market, where more than one Seller for  
Cloathing, and other of their Wants ;  
which Methods, I say, have greatly dis-  
animated all the *Maritime People* under a  
*Commission Officer* : And, I fear, oby the  
Novels introduced, have brought Distra-  
ction and Confusion on it, to the great  
im-

impeding thereof: Wherefore it is high time, if it be not too late, to awaken out of this Lethargy, to recover our *Dominion, Honour, and Prowess*, before it be past recovery, now in this instant War with *France*; to effect which, the *Nation* must not spare Blood nor Treasure, although it prove a *Work* of time; and great *Maritime Expences* must be continued until it be gained; without which, no lasting Peace, or Happiness can be expected for us to enjoy; for the Sword being drawn by so many hands, to carve themselves a share out of this said *Maritime Dominion*, we are not able to judge, how Sides may be taken; or with whom we may happen to deal with, before the Seas may enjoy a settled Peace: Wherefore I enplore the *King* and *Estates* in *Parliament*, to put the *Navy* into a posture of great and constant defence, to dispoyl this *Common Enemy* of

326 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
all his Commands, or Colonies, in the  
*West-Indies*, and his Navigation of Fish-  
ing on the Banks of New-found-land; but  
first to put the Navy into its former Me-  
thods of Expedition, near unto what  
was practised when *England* did such  
Braveries at Sea, as before spoken of, and  
by expugning all the *Novel*, and hurtful  
invented *Intricacies*; and retain only the  
*Landable*, which is the *principal* and *pro-*  
*per Work* of the *Lord High Admiral*, or  
*Lords Commissioners*, for executing the  
said Office; by appointing, and choosing  
*Experienced, Wise, Just, Valiant, and*  
*Religious Commissioners of the Navy,*  
*Flag Officers, Captains, Commissioned and*  
*Warranted Officers*; all well approved in  
their Principles, for the maintaining of  
the *Monarchical Government* of this Na-  
tion, both in Church and State, *as by the*  
*Laws thereof established*; and to lay by  
all *Uncapable and Irreligious Persons, un-*  
*just*

just Cowards, Private-Interest-makers, Trickers, Dissemblers, Designers, Party-makers, Debanded and Disloyal Persons, to the said Government; and by inviting and encouraging all good Men, qualified as aforesaid, and setting of Just, Safe, Expeditious, and well experienced Methods in the Government thereof; affixing and establishing Rewards and Preferments, independant upon private Interest, Bribes, or immediate Superiors Commanding; and also giving them ample and full Instructions for the performance of their respective Duties; in doing which they shall be safe from violence, or wrong done them by their Superiors; not suffering Methods and Instructions to be either leapt over, or broken like Cob-webs, and they left to Despotical and Tyrannical Power: I say, the King Commissions the Lords of the *Admiralty*, under him; and by his Dictates unto them

from time to time, to Govern, Fight, and Manage the said Navy; and to perform which, they Constitute Commissioners of the Navy, to negotiate under them, and by their Dictates and Approbation, to prepare and provide Ships, Men, Stores, and all Necessaries, Provisions, Moneys, &c: and to Dispose, Account, and Order the same, as Deputies of the *Lord High Admiral*; having each his distinct Class, or Order, to act in; yet a certain number thereof confirms all Actions, *viz.* three of them, whereof one is needful to be the *Comptroller*, him into whose particular Office, the said Matters do more immediately relate, whose Clerks, in each Office, are under their respective Inspections, and Directions for Dispatches, to keep them to their Duties; duly observing their Errors, in Methods, and Protraction, in Dispatches; yet not wholly confined to their respective Offices, but to

to mark all Errors in all others, nay, of all Degrees and Orders of the Navy, under the *Lord High Admiral*; but if they are designed to live at ease, and let Business slide, and do Justice as the unjust Judge did, because he was wearied by the Complainant, that he could not rest, and no otherwise: If he let Officers do their Dispatches at their Leisures, Secretaries, Clerks, &c. do most of the business. I say, if their Actions are with too much Grandeur and Deliberation, and promulgate their Pleasures, at too great distances, and through too many Doors: And if they move in the Affairs, as some Country Justices doe to do Justice to their Country; for at their procuring the Commission, it was but to give them Authority to punish those that offended themselves, or Friends, in their Domestick Rights, or slighted their Grandeur; but to serve their Countrey, or take pains to

330 **Naval Speculations: Or,**  
to distribute Justice to relieve the oppressed, and restore Men to lost Rights; maintain Peace and Amity in Neighbourhoods, punish Malefactors and Offenders, and for doing this, and many more good Offices, spends his Time and Moneys at *Affizes* and *Sessions*, he never intended any more than to live well himself, and let the World Sink or Swim: I say, if such like proceedings be in the *Navy*, then I conclude it has gotten a filthy Disease, the *Lethargy*; and to awaken it out of its Drowsiness, there ought to be some sharp Applications: Wherefore I project, that there should be another Officer created in the *Navy*, *viz.* a Superseding Officer, such as the French call an *Intendant*; but I affect not the French Name nor Manners, but the *Latines* or *Romans*, a Censor; one that should Censure all Officers in the *Navy*, under the *Lord High Admiral*, and be Commissioned by him, to go

go and sit at all Boards, Inspect all Officers and Books, and observe their Methods and Practices in dispatches; and censure dictate, direct, and correct the Errors, quicken the Dispatches, hear all Grievances and Complaints, suspend all Contumelious, Negligent, Dishonest, Disloyal, and offending Officers; referring them to the *Admiralty* for their Appeal, whither he should transmit their Faults, in a fair written Accusation, taken before him, at the place by his Clerk, for that Purpose, where the Accusers and Accused (*Viva Voce*) should answer, and Oaths for Proof administered in Material causes; and should visit all the Ports, Yards, &c. and go on board the Ships, Flags, &c. and enquire into all Misdemeanors; and at his coming into any Yard or Ship, there should be a Signal hung out, that all Men may know that the Censor is there; and that there is  
free

332 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
free liberty for any one to exhibit their  
Complaints, or Informations, which  
should be received with all Clemency and  
Mildness imaginable, and written in a  
Book there, and transcribed fairly into a  
Ledger-Book, by a Clerk for that pur-  
pose kept in the *Admiralty Office*; called  
the *Black Book* for some, viz. Offend-  
ers, and the *White Book* for the Meritorious;  
wherein the *Admiralty* may, upon  
all Occasions, for laying aside of any  
undeserving Men; see their former  
Faults, and how many, and how often  
committed; and for Preferment their De-  
serts, and how often, and how long  
waited for Preferment; here would be a  
Mirrour for the *Admiralty*, and a true  
Portraiture of all the Affairs ready at all  
times before them; and may not, nay,  
cannot be so easily misguided in so great  
an Affair, if it be rightly managed, he  
should be in constant motion, and soon  
be

be at the Ports, Ships, and Places where he is little expected: And again, at the *Navy*, and *Admiralty Boards*, *Treasury*, *Victualling-Office Board*, at *Pays*, &c. he ought to have a good Sallary, and allowance of Travelling, Charges to bear his Port above the Malice of evil Men, with which he will be sufficiently embroiled, if he quits his Duty with Faithfulness and Courage; and therefore he ought to have great Countenance from, and free Access and Communication with the *Admiralty Board* at all times; then would Designers, Trickers, Private-Interest-makers, Imbezlers, Private Contractors, evil Officers and Commanders, pull in their Heads, and not dare to commit such Faults, knowing that the poorest Man may have his Cause easily scanned, and soon censured with equal Favour and Justice; and a Record thereof remain according to its Deserts, without travelling far

334 Naval Speculations : Or,  
far to great Offices, and when come there,  
knows not what Door to knock at, nor  
whom to ask for ; and with an Answer  
from the Door-keeper, That they are  
not to be spoke with yet ; or not within ;  
or that it is not the right Office, but di-  
rects him to another ; and there he finds  
the like Answer : And so he returns wea-  
ry, his Money spent, and no whit the  
wiser : And perhaps for this Endeavour,  
if it come to the Offenders Ear, he shall  
be totally crushed. I say, this Officer  
of *Censor* would be the very Vital Spirits  
running through every Member of this  
Politick Body of the *Navy*, and warm  
every part thereof with the sweet Beams  
of his Justice, and cause Men to come  
clearfully into the Service, and endure  
the Fatigues, Labours, Wants, Wounds,  
and Disorders incident to the Affair, with  
all imaginable Patience and Alacrity ; for  
Justice would wait at their Doors : So  
that

that I say, This Office added to some of the Regulations herein suggested, *viz.* curtailing of intricate Methods, spuring and moderating of Clerks, expelling the Monopolizing of the Sailers Markets for Cloathing and Necessaries, and relief for their Families, by having a free and open Market to sell their Tickets, or ingage their Pay; by taking off the Scandal and Abuses of Religion in the Ministerial Function; by having Moderate, Friendly Just, Sober Discreet, yet Absolute, and every way good Commands carried; it would produce such a Harmony in the Affair, that all good Officers would joyce together; strive to exceed each other in the performance of Duty; and the Sailor would prefer the Service, before any Merchants Service.

First, For that he is defended from all ill Men, from any wrong that may be done to him.

Secondly,

336 Naval Speculations: Or,  
Secondly, That there is room for him  
to exercise his Ingenuity, Labour, and  
Industry, in Art, &c. by which there he  
has a fair prospect of Preferment to Ho-  
nour and Wealth.

And Lastly, That he has a good Com-  
pensation of allowance of wholesome Diet,  
and large Wages, well answered to him;  
and in his Sickness Provision for him; and  
for loss of Limbs an Allowance, during  
Life; and in Cases of Captivity, or Death  
in Battle, some Benevolence for his Fam-  
ily: All which, I say, would animate and  
invite any Man that has any spark, or  
sense of Grace, or Goodness, Prudence,  
or Honesty, or grain of Genius; to croud  
and screw himself into the Service, know-  
ing that in *Merchants Employments*, he  
hath not a fourth part of the Chances for  
his good Fortunes, and ten times the  
Chances for his ill Fortunes.

And

And again, That he would by the Methods herein suggested, be without hopes of evading the Service, by shunning, or bribing of the *Press-Masters*, his Name, Aboard, and Voyages, too well kept account of for his Escape. I say, these things so well Joynted, Ferneered, and Cemented together, would make a beautiful Body Politick, which would serve the true ends thereof, *viz.* preserve and maintain the Honour, Glory, Peace, and Tranquillity of their Majesties, and their Kingdoms ; for without the prosperity of which *Navy*, as I said before, these Kingdoms can have no hopes of Safety, from being invaded by the Powerful at Sea : Their *Colonies* all destroyed, and Trade with it, and being an Island, lie open to all Invasions and Allarms of Enemies ; being divested of Fortifications in the Inlands, to stop the sudden Inundations of Foreigners : The

**Naval Speculations.** Or,  
Dangers whereof I need not farther to  
Inculcate. And for the more ease of the Nation,  
to bear these large Expences of Naval  
Forces, and the exposing to loss the Lives  
of so many of the Inhabitants thereof, I  
have projected a Thrift in the building,  
and repairing of Ships, most useful for  
us, and by sparing the profuse and pro-  
digal Expences therein; and a right ap-  
plying the Treasure, stopping growing  
Charges, by discharging Men by Tickets,  
if Money be not ready; the Money'd  
Men would buy them with little los's, if  
they may receive it again with Credit;  
the Nation's Credit being past for it; and  
the Sailors be plentifully supply'd with  
Content; And for the supplying the los's  
of Mariners, which must follow this Af-  
fair, I have projected a sure, and never-  
failing Seminary of Seamen, to proceed  
from the Male Children of Poor and In-  
digent

digent People, and by the encouragement of *Fisbery*; and by putting into Merchants Ships some of the King's Children.

Lastly, For our present War with France, I have hinted Measures, whereby we might maintain our Trade, and repel their Power; I being then upon that Subject, when it was supposed, that the two Fleets were Ingaged; not knowing then, nor yet can find the Reasons for their bold Attempt; having the greatest Disadvantages attending them, and we the greatest Advantages attending us: That the Proceedings is a Mystery, an Abyss, and Occult matter to me; and therefore I will not farther wade therein: Yet I find no Reasons to retract my then Sentiments in the General, which must admit of some particular Exceptions, as Circumstances do vary, as I there have said.

And to preserve our Wealth at home, I have projected a Balance of Trade with *France*, by a due Estimation of their Goods to be Imported to us, and equal Imposts laid; and to encourage a *Linen Manufact* here, by the poor Females of the Nation, and to shun all Maintainance to Idle and Slothful People.

Now, I confess, I have let slip one main Matter to treat of in the *Navy*, viz. The Management of the Provision at Sea, but especially on Shoar, for Sick and Wounded Men, by Hospitals, and Receptacles for them, with Physicians and Chirurgions, &c. in which are large Expences, but not serving the Purposes intended, as I could wish it did, by reason of the Abuses, for want of good Order: I being freightened in time for the unhappy Success of our Fleet in *June*, caused me to be Commanded

manded to the Seas, which took from me the opportunity of discoursing the whole Matter, as I intended; and being now returned with Sickness, and Cold Weather, and short Days, am forced to bind up the Matter thus roughly and indigested; being a little ambitious to crowd it in, in time, if it might be useful to this Winter's Consultations, and Preparations for next Summer; but if God permit, and that it may serve for the benefit of my King and Country, I will make a Second Edition; wherein I shall endeavour to detect and discover all the Errors and Corruptions in the whole Series and Conduct of the *Navy*, what have been observed by me, or informed of by others, for divers Years past, unto that present time; for as it is a great and important Affair, and of vast charges to the Nation, and likely of necessity, to be far greater, and of long

342 **Rabul Speculations.** Or,  
continuance to be so : If we will procure  
and maintain the Nations Peace and Wel-  
fare, so ought it to be done in good  
Oeconomy, by Authentick, Honest, and  
Just proceedings, to make the burthen  
as easie and supportable for the Nation,  
as it is possible to be, *viz.* with good  
and answerable Rewards, to all that shall  
act therein ; by being in Perils of Battels,  
perils by the Seas, im prisoments by En-  
emies, Fatigues, Labours, Wants and  
Hardships, incident to the Affair ; as also,  
to the more sedate and quiet Justiciaries,  
Rulers, Projectors, Overseors, Clerks  
and Accompters in the same.

Now if it have happened to be run in-  
to Errors in proceedings, and made di-  
fficult to be Traced, the ways Occult,  
and the depths not Fordable, by any,  
but by Men of such Sizes and Statures,  
*viz.* parties, the Mysteries acted secluse-  
ly,

ly, the Commands arbitrary and chargeably above Measure, and uncertain in its Actions; I say, if it be so, then will it appear so, in scanning the particulars, otherwise not: But if so, then may the Nation groan under the heavy pressures thereof: Nay, in fine, sink under the Burthen, and never attain the end, for which so vast Treasure and Blood, was, and is to be expended.

Wherefore, I say, my second Edition shall be to detect and discover the Errors, if any appear, such as follow; by whome and what advantages have been made; by selling of Places and Preferments, by preferring of Parties, Sons, Relations, Marrying of Daughters and Relatives into the Affair, and twisting themselves into, and about it, even as the Ivy about the Oak, and then appear with most verdure, in the

Winter of Affliction ; when the Oak bath no Leaf, nay, no Sap left, how and in what time grown Rich ; whether by undue Methods, Gifts, Bribes, cunning and secret Contracts, Purloinings, Embezellings or Connivings, or by extorting Fees, by delays in Dispatches, by encroaching Affairs to be under their cognizances for Ludre, by Intricate, New, and unpractised Methods, &c.

New if any Person is aggrieved at their hard Measure done them, and are desirous not to have it longer smothered, or buried in Oblivion, or do bear so good a heart to their Country ; that they would willingly have it prosper in Peace, Wealth, and Honour, or in conscience to Godward, not to conceal such Abuses, as are best known to few but themselves, and be like the good

An-

antient Romans; who, altho' Heathens, yet detested the Robbing of the Publick Treasury, or Converting it to private Interest, knowing it to be the Barque in which all their Felicity was Freight-ed; and therefore voluntarily detected and discovered, all that they found Guilty thereof: So that many of their great Ministers, Generals, and Commanders, were often called to Account, and forced to Disgorge their Ill gotten Wealth, as may be plentifully gathered out of their Histories; for had they not been publick Spirited as they were, and to the shame of succeeding Nations (Witness, after the Battel of *Cannæ*) when *Hannibal* came over the *Alpes*.

Surely they had never maintained their State against the *Carthaginians*, much more spread their Plumes over the

346 **Mabud Superstitionis;** Or,  
the most part of the then known World:  
In doing of which, it was generally  
observed, That they exercised great  
Justice in their Conquests; the which  
was always acknowledged by the Van-  
quished; and seldom but they were  
Gainers by being Conquered: For al-  
though they were in Idolatry, yet they  
were great Examples of Justice and E-  
quity, abounding in good Morality  
in their Governments, and excelling in  
Commands, and Feats of Arms, to the  
rest of the World: So also in their  
early Christianity, they were exemplar  
in Piety, and Orthodox Opinions, to  
all other Churches; insomuch, that  
they were often appealed to, for De-  
cision of Controversies; the which was  
a principal Ground for their Bishop to  
assume the Oecumenical Title; but Cor-  
ruptions, long since, hath despoiled  
them of their Orthodoxy, and private

Inte-

Interest of their excellent Government,  
and publick Spiritedness.

Wherefore, I say, if there be any yet alive, that bears such a publick Spirit as the former, towards his Country ; and will advise me truly of any Matters of Moment, pertinent to the Purposes aforesaid, let them direct their Letter to me, (thus :) To *Henry Maydman*, to be put into his Box at the *Post-Office General*, in *London* : Whom I also advise, That they do pay the Postage, otherwise it will never come to my hands. The which I do to avoid the Tricks some Wanton Spirits will be apt to put upon me.

Also I advise, that they do mention what Directions I shall make use of, if I should have occasion to Write to them some farther Questions in the said Matter ;

348 **Naval Speculations**: Or,  
Matter; the which being done, I shall  
give it a Faithful Quotation in the afore-  
said Treatise, whose Title shall be,  
(*The Naval Censor Informed.*) Wherein  
also I will not again let slip, that Char-  
geable, and Important Affair, of the  
Provision for Sick and Wounded Seamen  
on Board and Shoar; but I will discourse  
~~it~~ from Stem, to Stern.

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F I N I S.

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The most Material Errors by the Press, occasioned by the Author's being out of Town, are Corrected as follow, *viz.*

Page	Line	Error	Read	P	S	Page	Line	Error	Read
13	7	Employed	Implied	83	11	11	appointed	—	—
26	3	Defaulted	Defalked	83	19	Boatswain	Boatwains	Guide	Guides
35	18	leaving	leaping	90	1	Vouches	Vouchers	to the Cheque	So the Cheque
41	14	Drops	Drips	102	14	12	Determination	Termination	Effectives
44	15	Casks	Cash	194	14	14	Festives	Misrepresented	contrive
44	18	he action	the action	161	4	Represented	Projection	Tantamount	the Tantamount
50	17	Masters Books	Muster-Book	202	10	continue	Jesting	—	—
55	2	Treasure	Treasury	204	14	10	Protection	bent	good
61	8	Office	Officers	204	14	9	Pestling	Score	—
64	17	Pace	Peace	210	18	14	lent	—	—
68	18	—	with every one	219	9	14	hood	—	—
69	3	Swear	Sweat	297	22	14	Stores	—	—
69	17	—	take effect	298	14	22	—	—	—
71	12	direct	divert	320	14	—	—	—	—
81	14	Vouches	Vouchers	—	—	—	—	—	—